

RESEARCH NOTE

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# Preferred cataract surgery practices in Malaysia: a survey based study

Yong Zheng Wai<sup>1</sup>, Yong Yui Chong<sup>2</sup>, Lik Thai Lim<sup>3,4\*</sup>, Jan Bond Chan<sup>5</sup> and Sudhashini Chandrasekaran<sup>6</sup>

## Abstract

**Background** To describe the preferred cataract surgery practices among Malaysian ophthalmologists and medical officers in comparison with the recommended practices.

**Methods** An online questionnaire was sent out in April 2021, to Malaysian Ophthalmologists and medical officers who perform cataract surgeries. The questions were focused on the preferred cataract surgery practices of the participants. All data obtained were collected, tabulated and analysed.

**Results** A total of 173 participants responded to the online questionnaire. 55% of the participants were within 31–40 years of age. 56.1% preferred peristaltic pump over venturi system. 91.3% of participants practised povidone iodine instillation to the conjunctival sac. With regards to the main wound incision, more than half of the surgeons (50.3%) preferred fixed superior incision and 72.3% of them preferred 2.75 mm microkeratome blade. Most of the participants (63%) were inclined towards C-Loop clear intraocular lens (IOL) with a single-handed push preloaded system. 78.6% of the surgeons routinely use carbachol in their cataract surgery.

**Conclusions** This survey provides some insight into the current practices among Malaysian ophthalmologists. Most of the practices are in line with international guidelines for preventing postoperative endophthalmitis. This article could help trainees and ophthalmologists benchmark and observe the common cataract surgery practices among their seniors and peers in Malaysia.

**Keywords** Cataract surgery, Phacoemulsification, Cataract surgery practice trend

## Background

Age-related cataracts remain the leading cause of blindness in middle and low-income countries [1]. Cataract extraction is the most commonly performed eye operation in the world [2]. Cataract surgery practice patterns have changed over the past years with better surgical outcomes and safety. Many countries like the USA, Canada, Japan, New Zealand, Korea, Jordan and Thailand have reported their current preferred cataract surgical practice [3–8].

Korean Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery reported their latest cataract surgical practice in 2018 with an increasing trend of premium intraocular lens (IOL), optical biometry and topical anaesthesia usage [7].

\*Correspondence:

Lik Thai Lim

ltlim@unimas.my

<sup>1</sup>Department of Ophthalmology, Kuala Lumpur Hospital, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

<sup>2</sup>Ampang Hospital, Ampang, Malaysia

<sup>3</sup>Faculty of Medicine, Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS), Kota Samarahan, Sarawak, Malaysia

<sup>4</sup>Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS), Kota Samarahan, Sarawak, Malaysia

<sup>5</sup>International Specialist Eye Center, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

<sup>6</sup>Department of Ophthalmology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya, Malaya, Malaysia



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