

ABSTRACT

MANAGEMENT OF TUBE EROSION

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Glaucoma drainage implant (GDI) has an important role in the surgical management of glaucoma. One late complication after GDI surgery is the erosion of the tube through the conjunctiva. Reported estimates of the prevalence of this complication range between 3% and 5%. It is an important complication to notice and to treat, because the risk of endophthalmitis increases if any part of the tube is exposed. In most cases, tube erosion has been seen in the limbus area of the bulbus.

The following three treatment options can be used to manage tube erosion: 1: Cover the segment with a new patch graft and conjunctiva. 2: Repositioning the tube more posterior in same quadrant or to a new quadrant or moving the tube into the posterior chamber in pseudophakic eye or using a pars plana placement. 3: Explant the old GDI (or tube) and insert a new implant in different quadrant.