A Modification of the Suture, Recommended by Kalt a.o.

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Particularly in restless patients it is important to open the bulbus oculi for the cataract extraction as safely as possible and in a way which enables one to close the eye firmly afterwards. The figure will speak for itself.

One needle of a doubly armed thread is inserted into the cornea at 11.30 o'clock, $\frac{3}{4}$ mm. from the limbus corneae and parallel to it, and passed through the lamellae to 12.30 o'clock, where the point of the needle should come out of the cornea.

This needle should remain in place till the opening of the bulbus has been accomplished.

The other needle of the double armed thread is inserted into the conjunctiva and sclera at 11.30 o'clock, $\frac{3}{8}$ mm. from the limbus corneae parallel to the latter. This needle is passed intrasclerally to 12.30 o'clock and stays in that place after the point of the needle has parted the tissues.

The needles are now parallel to each other and to the limbus corneae, traversing the tissue from 11.30 to 12.30 and the distance between them is $1\frac{1}{2}$ mm.

1 Traité d'Ophthalmologie VII, p. 615, 1939.

v. Nordheim, A Modification of the Suture, 417

Now follows the opening of the bulbus with the keratome and the widening of that opening with scissors 2.

Thereafter, the needles are pulled through and the thread is tied after the completion of the operation.

The advantage of leaving the needles in situ, when opening the bulbus, is clear. Even if unexpected movements of the patient occur, it is impossible to cut the thread, as one is operating between the steel needles. Moreover, some surgeons might feel a certain amount of nervousness or tension, when they open the bulbus oculi in the classic way. This is avoided by following the method described above.

1 I think this is an advantage, for that tension is caused by the possibilities of complications. The latter are reduced if one operates in the way described above.

Summary.

A modification is described of a suture to close the eye after cataract extraction.

Zusammenfassung.

Eine Naht ist beschrieben zur Verschließung des Auges nach Extraktion der Linse.

Resume.

Description d'une modification de la suture qui referme le globe après extraction de la cataracte.

2 Castroviejo: Modern Trend in Ophthalmology

second series 1948.