

Abstract

Surgery in normal-tension glaucoma

The principle of treatment in normal-tension glaucoma (NTG) is similar to high-tension glaucoma, aiming to decrease intraocular pressure (IOP). NTG is often quite advanced already when diagnosed, and typically threatens central vision earlier. Target IOP is always low, both due to glaucoma progression at normal IOP and advanced damage. When not achieved with conservative treatment, surgery is needed. Newer minimally invasive glaucoma surgery techniques can generally not lower IOP to lower teens or single digit numbers and are not a reasonable option in NTG. Filtration surgery with a flap technique or tube shunt is standard surgical treatment in NTG. They include multiple risks, the most important being hypotony and related problems, and scarring, possibly leading to IOPs higher than ever previously. As the target pressure is always low in NTG, the range of optimal IOP is narrow.

Pros and cons for different surgeries will be discussed.