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Influence of computerized simulated training on learning curve of surgical performance of phacoemulsification in residents at the “Asociación Para Evitar la Ceguera en México, Hospital Dr. Luis Sánchez Bulnes”

Objective: To determine if the time of training on the ophthalmic surgical simulator improves the learning curve of residents acquiring phacoemulsification skills.

Materials & Methods: Prospective, experimental and comparative study was performed in the teaching department at Asociación Para Evitar la Ceguera en México, Hospital Dr. Luis Sánchez Bulnes. Sixteen students were evaluated: with training course of 6, 12 and 18 hours with the EYESi® ophthalmic surgery simulator. The exams presented to the students, comprised the following 5 exercises: capsulorhexis, hydrodelamination-hydrodissection, phacoemulsification, irrigation/aspiration of cortical residues and placement of the intraocular lens. The maximum grade was 500 points (100 per exercise) and each student took the same test at least twice.

Results: The initial and final exams of 15 students were analysed. There were statistically significant differences in surgical performance ($P=0.039$).

Conclusions: The training of students with the EYESi® ophthalmic surgical simulator has positive effects on the learning curve and that effect correlated positively and significantly with the number of sessions attended starting at a minimum of 6 hours.

Biography

Francisco Alvarado B is a Surgical Instructor of residents at wet-lab in “Asociacion Para Evitar la Ceguera en México, Hospital Dr. Luis Sánchez Bulnes” in México City. He used the simulator EyeSi for training resident’s in Ophthalmology. He is a speaker at different congresses of Human and Veterinary Medicine on Ophthalmology and has performed surgeries in ophthalmology in exotic and conventional animals: phacoemulsification in a tiger, dogs and cats.

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