

Roundtable Discussion: Penetrating keratoplasty: Still the gold standard?

Questions and answers

1. How many keratoplasties are performed in your country per year?

Country	KP/total	KP / per 10.000 Inhabitants
France	4.000	6,0
Germany	7.300	8,9
Italy	7.000	11,6
Spain	4.800	10,3
United Kingdom	3.500	5,4

2. How is the distribution between PK and lamellar procedures? How many DMEK, DSAEK and DALK are performed on an annual basis?

and

3. In which indications is DMEK performed in your country? In which DSAEK? In which DALK? In which PK?

Posterior lamellar keratoplasties represent at least 50% of all keratoplasties in Germany, France, Italy, UK and Spain. In Germany more than 90% of all posterior lamellar keratoplasties are DMEK. That is different in France, Italy, Spain and UK where (ultrathin) DSAEK seems to be performed more often.

In Germany only 2,7% of all keratoplasties are performed as DALK, especially in keratokonus. In France, Italy, Spain and UK this ratio seems to be higher.

4. What is the position of the femtosecond laser for penetrating keratoplasty in your country?

Femtosecond laser do not play a significant role in penetrating keratoplasty in any of the above mentioned countries. This is due to time and money consumption. Most probably, the use of the Femtosecond laser does not deliver better results than conventional keratoplasty. However in some centers it is still used.

Results PK is no longer gold standard for the treatment of posterior corneal disease.