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Chapter 3: Innovative treatments for DED using RF surgery

3.0 Introduction.

Most current treatments of DED as summarized in Chapter 1 are common knowledge, but two innovative therapies using RF surgery are described in this chapter:

Chapter 3.1 reports on the in-office occlusion of the tear punctum using the CPO electrode. This electrode, developed by Dr. Bouzouaya and Dr. Garito, is designed for use in combination with RF surgery. RF surgery is less invasive for the permanent occlusion of the punctum lacrimalis and the canalculus lacrimalis (lacrimal canal; see Fig. 1.3) than the usual coagulation with electrosurgery, limited to the punctum [see Bouzouaya and Raus, 2012; Appendix 3.1].

Chapter 3.2 deals with a technique of minor salivary gland transplantation to the eyelids which we perfectionized.

Several salivary gland surgeries had been published before:

- transposition of the parotid duct to the eyelids [Pierce et al., 1960];
- transplantation of the submandibular salivary gland to the eyelids [Geerling et al., 1998];
- transplantation of minor (labial) salivary glands to the eyelids [Murube, 1998; Raus, 2003];
- transplantation of the sublingual salivary glands [Geerling and Sieg, 2008].

Conclusion: Transplantation of the labial salivary glands appears to be the least invasive of these techniques.

References: