

# Excimer Laser Phototherapeutic Keratectomy for Recurrent Corneal Erosions

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## Abstract

*The purpose of this paper was to review the Singapore National Eye Centre's (SNEC) experience with excimer laser phototherapeutic keratectomy (PTK) for treating recurrent corneal erosions (RCE).*

*Thirty-five eyes of 32 patients who had PTK between 1992 and 1997 in SNEC were studied retrospectively. There was a history of previous ocular trauma in 15 eyes. Sixteen eyes had anterior corneal dystrophy. All had received conventional therapy without improvement in symptoms. The mean duration of symptoms prior to PTK was 19 months (range 1 to 71 months). PTK was performed with one of two 193 nm excimer lasers (Summit UV200LA, Summit Technology, Waltham, USA or Visx 20/20B, Visx Corp, Santa Clara, USA). An average of 30 laser pulses were delivered to Bowman's membrane after debridement of the corneal epithelium.*

*The mean follow-up time was 12 months (range 0 to 56 months). Among those with adequate length of follow-up, 26/27 eyes (96%) were symptom-free for 3 months, 19/22 eyes (86%) were symptom-free for 6 months and 9/13 eyes (69%) were symptom-free for 1 year. Three eyes had repeat PTK. Mild corneal haze was seen in 3 eyes. No visually threatening complications were encountered.*

*PTK is a safe and effective procedure for RCE refractory to conventional treatment.*

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*Key words: Complications, Efficacy, Ophthalmology, Treatment modality*

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