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“Use of Intravenous Tranexamic Acid Does not Improve Arthroscopic Visualization in Shoulder Surgery: A Randomized Controlled Trial”

Adequate visual clarity is paramount to performing arthroscopic shoulder surgery safely, efficiently, and effectively. A randomized controlled trial was conducted to determine if intravenous tranexamic acid is a safe and effective alternative to epinephrine added to irrigation fluid in improving visualization, and if there are any advantages to using tranexamic acid together with epinephrine. 128 participants were randomized to four groups: control, tranexamic acid, epinephrine, and the two in combination. Our study found that epinephrine improves visualization compared to a control, tranexamic acid does not improve visualization compared to a control, and that there is no advantage to using tranexamic acid and epinephrine in combination.