A Simple, Versatile, Disposable, and Inexpensive Eye Patch

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An eye patch is usually used for occlusion therapy to prevent amblyopia [1] or as an eye pad dressing for neurotrophic keratopathy amid other therapeutical care [2], lagophthalmos [3], to protect the eye after an open trauma or after the removal of a foreign body embedded in the cornea, to avoid diplopia in temporary extraocular muscle palsy [4,5]. Opticlude® is one of the best known.

The authors have been using 1.5-inch width adhesive tape (Micropore®) for the aforementioned purposes for many decades (Figure 1). In recent years they have been utilizing it to protect the eye during laser or intensive pulsed light (IPL) facial procedures. It must be noted that an additional metal shield is also essential (Figure 2). This eye patch has the following advantages compared to the traditional eye pad: it is cheaper, simpler, disposable, avoids the use of additional supplies and guarantees a total lid occlusion.

In laser or IPL procedures it eliminates the need to keep the eye shield in place and also avoids extra inventory items (Figure 3).

During our long experience, we have observed corneal erosions in some patients, especially in lagophthalmos, due to incorrectly applied eye pad dressings. The use of this tape guarantees complete eyelid closure. Patients are often concerned about loss of eyelashes upon removal of the tape, but this is not the case.

References
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