

# AMBIODisk®

## Pearls for Success



*John Hovanesian, MD, globally recognized corneal physician, provides the following protocol as part of a “best practices” guideline for practitioners utilizing AmbioDisk and other amniotic membrane products for ocular surface disorders.*

*Implementing this protocol will help achieve optimal patient experience and outcomes.*

*The following instructions apply to corneas with full-thickness epithelial defects (much deeper than punctate stain) covering at least 20% of the corneal surface.*

*Effectiveness and reaction to amniotic membrane is prone to increased variability in patients presenting with less severely diseased eyes. These patients may be more sensitive to discomfort when any form of amniotic membrane is placed.*

### **POSITION THE PATIENT:**

- ✓ Place the patient in supine position
- ✓ Apply topical anesthesia
- ✓ Insert the speculum

### **Debride 1-2 mm of epithelium surrounding the edge of the defect:**

- ✓ Use a beaver blade or sponge spear tip

### **Dry the cornea:**

- ✓ An overly wet surface may impair adherence of the membrane to the cornea

### **Place the tissue:**

- ✓ Use non-toothed forceps
- ✓ Grasp the edge of the AmbioDisk and place amnion (epithelial) side facing down

### **Promote adherence to the ocular surface:**

- ✓ Apply AmbioDisk so the first contact with the cornea is centered over the epithelial defect
- ✓ Using a sponge spear, gently press down the tissue so it is fully applied to the cornea
- ✓ AmbioDisk is packaged amnion (epithelial) side facing up in the box



### **Maintain disk placement with a bandage contact lens:**

- ✓ *Visually inspect the lens to be certain it is not inside out*
  - *The lens edge should be fully concave and not saucer-like*
- ✓ *Hold the edge of the BCL with non-toothed forceps*
  - *Place it on the eye without sliding it over the surface*
  - *Movement of the BCL could potentially dislodge the tissue*

### **Do not be concerned with:**

- ✓ *Small air bubbles and small folds*
  - *This is normal, air bubbles will disappear over time*
- ✓ *Cloudy appearance of the tissue*
  - *This will lighten with time*

### **Post-procedure medication recommendations:**

- ✓ *Topical medications*
  - *Anti-infective*
  - *NSAID*
  - *Steroidal anti-inflammatory*
- ✓ *Duration and dosage protocol are at the practitioner's discretion*

### **Post-procedure protocol:**

- ✓ *AmbioDisk will be absorbed over a 7-10 day period*
- ✓ *The BCL may be left in place for an additional period, as clinically indicated*

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