Title of Project: One day surgery at a university clinic: organization and impacts

Aim: In Hungary, our clinic gets extra financing for performing one-day surgery from the beginning of 2011. There are specific laws for one-day surgery in Hungary, which are very favorable for ophthalmology. Our aim was to present the new organization and documentation tasks, and to assess benefits of one-day surgery in our clinic.

Methods: Organization, monitoring, documentation work, savings were analyzed in a retrospective way with statistical methods.

Results: The law clarifies conditions of one-day surgery: elective surgery, the patients spend <24 hours in the clinic, patient with good general health, there will be no large blood loss, probable no significant postsurgical pain, self-supporter and adult patient. We have to get a sign from the patient about good flat- and hygienic condition, the clinic can be reached in 30 minutes, phone contact available and patient would like to be operated in one-day surgery form.

At least 75% of all ophthalmological procedures can be performed in one-day surgery from a professional point of view. Number of our one-day surgery procedures increased to 69% from the beginning of January, 2011, in a half year. Now we use one-day surgery method in 79% of cases of all ophthalmological procedures. 70% of patient living near to the clinic chose one-day surgery. We have no increased complication rate related to this supplying form in the examined time period.

New tasks for the clinic arrives: keeping the hygienic laws in this form of surgeries, operating the “controlling system”, reorganize work of doctors and assistants, reorganize electronic documentation system. We have to set up new pre- and postoperative one-day surgery rooms. Surgeon’s cost, nurse payment, general charges, laundry costs decreased with at least 50%, patient food supplying decreased to zero. Aggregate money saving is 18.8%, nurse work saving is 45 minutes/patient. Less night-nurse but more day-nurse work necessary. The waiting list decreased. Other benefits: patient rehabilitation in own home atmosphere, avoiding possible iatrogenic infection.

Conclusion: One-day surgery offers significant economic savings, better patient satisfactory and comfort with appropriate patient selection, reorganized doctor-, nurse work and documentation. Our waiting list decreased due to the increased financing background. Intervention list continuously increasing: intravitreal injection, conjunctival surgery, certain surgeries against glaucoma can be performed in one-day surgery now.