GLAUCOMA LASER TRIAL

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What did we learn from the Glaucoma Laser Trial?
- Initial treatment with argon laser trabeculoplasty may be at least as efficacious as initial treatment with topical timolol.

Critique of Glaucoma Laser Trial study design
- IOP lowering effect of timolol in contralateral eye
- Relatively short follow-up
- Unconventional stepped medical regimen

What clinically relevant question did GLT not answer?
- Value of ALT as an adjunct to topical medical therapy

What do we now know that may affect how we use results of GLT?
- Availability of new topical medications, eg prostaglandin analogues
- Currently used topical medications safe (OHTS)
- Patient persistency with initial glaucoma topical treatment alarmingly low
Long term topical medication use may be an adverse prognostic factor for filtration surgery.

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