

## **Lions World Vision Institute now offering FDA Approved Kerasave with Amphotericin B**

Kerasave recently received official FDA clearance for use as a cornea preservative. Kerasave, made by Alchimia in Italy, is a corneal storage medium with an optional Amphotericin B tablet additive. The combined presence of an antifungal agent and antibiotics promotes the microbiological safety of the corneal tissue.

The manufacturer of Kerasave is not new to cornea preservation. Kerasave's progenitor, Eusol-C, was created in 1998 and approved by the FDA for corneal storage and preservation. Kerasave, like Eusol-C, is a completely synthetic media for corneal storage at 4°C for up to 14 days. As such, it does not contain bovine derived chondroitin sulphate as does Optisol-GS. Instead, it contains a completely synthetic agent (dextran 500) as a dehydration agent. Additionally, Kerasave has both gentamicin and streptomycin, whereas Eusol-C contains only one antibiotic – gentamicin (in a higher concentration). The bactericidal activity of both solutions is safe and effective. The primary difference between the two is the optional antifungal activity of Kerasave.

Dr. Eric Abdullayev from Lions World Vision Institute (LWVI) has been involved in safety and efficacy studies using both Eusol-C and Kerasave for many years. LWVI's work with the manufacturers of Eusol-C and Kerasave is the reason LEITR had immediate access to these corneal preservatives during the recent Optisol backorder that has significantly reduce corneal tissue supply, and why LWVI is confident adding these preservatives in our eye bank operations.

To learn more about Kerasave please review the following documents and visit their website at <https://www.alchimiasrl.com/en/kerasave/>

- FDA Kerasave Approval Letter
- Kerasave – Technical Sheet