

# Preface

“All progress occurs because people dare to be different”.

**Harry Milner**

Every so often, changes occur in the technology of our day-to-day lives that truly alter how we do things. As retinal surgeons, the development of sutureless vitrectomy systems is one of these revolutionary changes that have altered how most of us perform surgery. Since Dr Eugene de Juan introduced us to a 25-gauge transconjunctival sutureless cannula system, there has been almost a dizzying pace of change in our field, as instrumentation companies refine and improve the 25-gauge experience. Given some of the early limitations of 25-gauge technologies, Dr Claus Eckardt introduced us to an alternative, a 23-gauge sutureless cannula system, which is becoming increasingly popular. At the present time, there is considerable debate and confusion amongst our community about the direction our field is going to take. Are we

all going to become 23-gauge surgeons? Will 20-gauge vitrectomy disappear? Can technologic improvements make the 25-gauge experience easier? We have put together this textbook to try and answer some of these questions, and to give you some help on when and how these new sutureless vitrectomy systems can be used. To aid us in this endeavour, we have recruited the leading surgeons in our field to offer their insights into the sutureless techniques they perform. We think you will enjoy the practical approach that many of the authors have taken in their chapters, and the “surgical tips” that are offered that can be used in your operating room right away.

Enjoy the textbook!

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