
Preface

Readers of the first edition will know that the purpose of this textbook is to provide a cohesive approach to vitreoretinal diagnosis and surgery. The book has been deliberately written single-handedly by the author to prevent the duplication that makes multiauthor texts often unwieldy. The text is a description of the knowledge I have built up over 17 years in vitreoretinal surgery in a tertiary referral unit in central London in the UK. The surgical methods provide an effective way of dealing with almost all vitreoretinal problems.

Surgical technique is in constant development, a reflection of the excitement that surrounds this great speciality. Even in the short time from publication of the first edition in 2008, there have been major changes in methodology such as the adoption of small-gauge vitrectomy in many centres. This edition brings the subject up to date and therefore should be beneficial to existing users of the book and to new.

The text has been extensively overhauled and expanded, and the figures increased from 600 to approximately 1,000. The text provides the essential information to diagnose vitreoretinal disorders and perform surgery. The figures are used to illustrate clinical features and describe surgical methods.

To provide the reader with an alternative viewpoint on surgery, 16 international experts have provided surgical pearls of wisdom. More contributions have been added both from new experts and also those who provided for the first edition. These are scattered through the text. I am very grateful to the contribution of these surgeons to the book.

An accompanying DVD provides videos with voice-overs to complement the text. In addition, a version of VITREOR, an access database which I have developed and used as an electronic patient record for the last 13 years, is provided. This is compliant with the UK rhegmatogenous retinal detachment dataset (VITREOR RRD has retinal detachment recording only). My own personal database has been used to monitor outcomes of my surgery and includes the details of over 8,000 operations. It has been an essential tool in my clinical practice, allowing audit of surgery, rapid access to clinical details in busy outpatient clinics and a useful clinical research tool. You will need Microsoft Access 2010 to run these databases and Microsoft Paint to create drawings.

Thank you to Prof. Anthony Goddard of Imperial College London for the help with the physics in the Appendix and to Mano Shunmugan who researched the Optical Coherence Tomography section of Chapter 1. Finally, my thanks go to all the trainees and surgeons who have been kind enough to provide me with feedback on the book and for their compliments and support.

I hope you enjoy the second edition; any feedback will be gratefully received. If you wish to give feedback, you can find my contact details on www.retinasurgery.co.uk.

Surgical Pearls of Wisdom

Bill Aylward	UK
Carl C. Awh	USA
David E. Barañano	USA
Federica G. Ebert	Italy
Andrew W. Eller	USA
Vlassis Grigoropolis	Greece
Richard Haynes	UK
Nancy M. Holekamp	USA
D. Alistair H. Laidlaw	UK
Harvey Lincoff	USA
Sarit Lesnik Oberstein	Netherlands
Ian L. McAllister	Australia
Stanislao Rizzo	Italy
Jan C. van Meurs	Netherlands
George A. Williams	USA
David Wong	China

The Databases

There are two versions of the database you can employ: VITREOR 2012 which allows you to collect data on all of the vitreoretinal conditions you encounter and VITREOR RRD for retinal detachments only. For both you will need Microsoft Access 2010 and Microsoft Paint. Put the retinal template folder on your C: drive (C:\retinal template\retinal template.bmp) to allow the drawing processes to pick up the retinal template bitmap. There are queries allowing analysis; note that because the database record right and left eyes, the queries convert right and left into affected and fellow eyes. The affected eye is the first eye operated upon. Watch the video which shows data collection and some of the features of the databases. A modicum of knowledge of Access will help. The databases are provided in an uneditable format. Note: They have been scanned by MacAfee, but please check with your own protection software. If you would like an editable version, please contact me directly, contact details are available from www.retinasurgery.co.uk. If you are using the database, please also let me know.

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Williamson, Th.H.

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