

Essentials in Ophthalmology

Vitreo-retinal Surgery

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Essentials in Ophthalmology

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Vitreo-retinal Surgery

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Vitreoretinal Surgery

With 50 Figures, Mostly in Colour
and 12 Tables

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Foreword

The Essentials in Ophthalmology series represents an unique updating publication on the progress in all subspecialties of ophthalmology.

In a quarterly rhythm, eight issues are published covering clinically relevant achievements in the whole field of ophthalmology. This timely transfer of advancements for the best possible care of our eye patients has proven to be effective. The initial working hypothesis of providing new knowledge immediately following publication in the peer-reviewed journal and not waiting for the textbook appears to be highly workable.

We are now entering the third cycle of the Essentials in Ophthalmology series, having been encouraged by

readership acceptance of the first two series, each of eight volumes. This is a success that was made possible predominantly by the numerous opinion-leading authors and the outstanding section editors, as well as with the constructive support of the publisher. There are many good reasons to continue and still improve the dissemination of this didactic and clinically relevant information.

G.K. Krieglstein
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Series Editors
September 2008

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!

Stanislao Rizzo
Fabio Patelli
David R. Chow
September 2008

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