

## **ILM-Peeling for Pucker Prophylaxis**

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### **Advantages:**

The incidence of pucker formation after retinal detachment surgery has been reported at between 4% and 25%. When it occurs it frequently is a functionally devastating event. Since rhegmatogenous detachment in our hands is treated by vitrectomy without buckling in most cases we investigated the possibility that removing the ILM at initial surgery might reduce the rate of postoperative pucker formation.

### **Methods:**

We removed the ILM in a retrospective series of 129 eyes undergoing vitrectomy for primary rhegmatogenous retinal detachment. In 29 of those eyes the macula was attached at the time of surgery. 117 eyes were available for follow-up.

### **Effectiveness/Safety:**

We achieved retinal reattachment with one operation in 92% of cases and final reattachment in all eyes. None of the eyes in the series developed pucker or any other recurrent epiretinal membrane and none of the eyes developed cystoid macular edema. ILM peeling seemed to have no adverse effects on final visual acuity, particularly in the eyes with initially attached macula.

### **Take-Home Message:**

ILM-peeling in eyes with retinal detachment is a safe and effective measure to prevent pucker formation in the postoperative course.