

Vitreoretinal surgery for epiretinal membranes (ERM)

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Idiopathic epiretinal membranes leads to vision loss due to macula edema, dense membrane over the fovea or sensory foveal elevation. In secondary ERMs other retinal pathologies contribute to the vision loss. Increase in visual acuity is achieved with pars plana vitrectomy and ERM peeling. It is easy to peel the membrane if the ERMs is stained. Trypan blue (TB) and triamcinolone acetonide (TA) is used to visualise the ERM which can be peeled with different kinds of forceps, picks or MVR blades. Although the necessity of peeling of internal limiting membrane (ILM) which is often tightly adherent to ERMs in these patients, is controversial it can contribute to the decrease in recurrence of ERMs. In this video, ERM peeling with or without staining with TB or TA is demonstrated. ERMs removal with different instruments and/or ILM peeling after staining with diluted indocyanine green or TB is shown under contact or noncontact viewing systems. Preoperative and postoperative OCTs are compared.