

The vitreoretinal interface and posterior vitreous detachment in proliferative diabetic retinopathy

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Vitrectomy for the complications of diabetic retinopathy remains a treatment for late disease, where visual results are often disappointing. Results from studies into photocoagulation for the treatment of proliferative diabetic retinopathy carried out many years ago suggested that 50% of blindness from this condition could be prevented. Despite this the late complications of this disease continue to challenge vitreoretinal surgeons; exemplified by the fact that this is the subject for this meeting.

This presentation examines the possible reasons for this, looking at the surgical relationships in the surface of the retina before and after posterior vitreous detachment. Future prospects for improved prevention are discussed both in terms of photocoagulation and posterior vitreous detachment.

