



**PUBLICATION**  
VITREORETINAL SURGERY:  
SECOND EDITION

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# VIEW FOR THE FEW

Within the field of ophthalmology, vitreoretinal surgery stands alone in that very few general ophthalmologists perform these operations.

Whereas many generalists carry out trabeculectomies, oculoplastic procedures, ocular surface treatments and strabismus corrections, most do not proceed further than argon laser treatment of a retinal tear.

Thus, many have only a vague and often outdated idea of how a VR surgeon spends his or her time in the operating room, and what is actually done inside the posterior segment. *Vitreoretinal*

*Surgery: Second Edition*, by Thomas H Williamson (Springer), provides valuable insight.

In contrast to many multi-author books coordinated by one or more editors, this text “has been deliberately written single-handedly by the author to prevent the duplication that makes multi-author texts often unwieldy”, the preface reads.

The decision was a wise one, as the book reads smoothly in a consistent tone. But let us not overlook the intended use of this book, namely “to allow a trainee or professional vitreoretinal surgeon to determine the best methodology in individual cases”.

Starting with a lucid description of the clinical examination of the eye, the text moves on to a 40-page intro to VR surgery, which covers details such as where to place the sclerotomies and how to manage peroperative complications.

Legitimately useful peroperative photographs, uncomplicated drawings and high-quality fundus photographs, OCTs and fluorescein angiographies complement the text. Overall, this is a very useful book and is ideally suited for vitreoretinal fellows, but might also be useful for residents during their VR rotation as well as early-career VR surgeons and generalists looking to broaden the scope of their knowledge about this subspecialty.

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