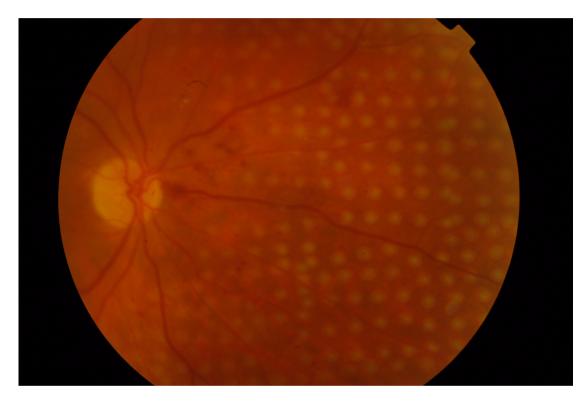
RETINA SURGERY Tom H Williamson MD MBChB, FRCS (Glas), FRCOphth

Retinal Detachment Surgery for Diabetes

Diabetic retinopathy is a condition whereby damage occurs to the small blood vessels of the retina of the eye. This may cause swelling in the retina, ischaemia (low oxygen) in the retina and more severe complications, which can lead to blindness.

The mainstays of treatments are laser therapy to the retina or injections of Anti VEGF drugs into the eye.

Laser burns in a retina.



In some patients with diabetes more extensive surgery is required. There are two main reasons why a patient with diabetes may need surgery:

- Haemorrhage and
- Retinal detachment

Diabetic Haemorrhage

Diabetes causes abnormal blood vessels to appear in the eye. Laser treatment is used to try to prevent these occurring. These blood vessels are fragile and bleed easily. Sometimes they bleed into the jelly of the eye (the vitreous) reducing vision. The vitreous and the bleed are removed by operation (vitrectomy) and more laser is applied.

Tel: 0207 099 0975 Fax: 0207 099 0974

www.retinsurgery.co.uk

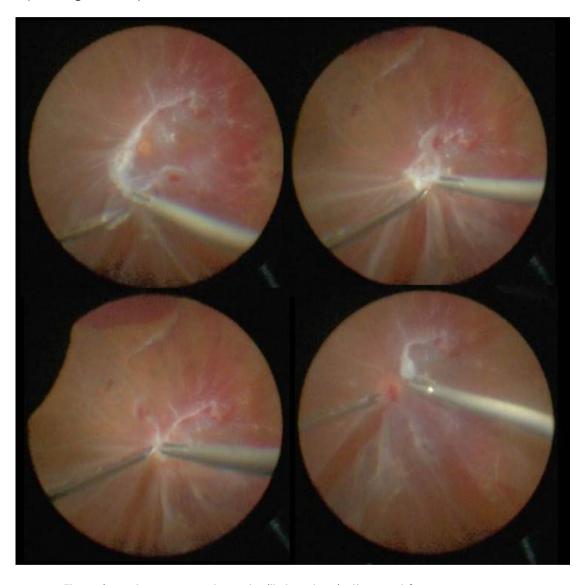
Email: <u>info.retinasurgery@gmail.com</u>
Postal Address: 78 York Street, London W1H 1DP

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Diabetic Retinal Detachment

Abnormal blood vessels produce scarring which in turn can produce retinal detachment. To treat this the vitreous is removed and the scars are dissected off the retina. A bubble of gas may be used to support the retina.

Operating on an eye with diabetic retinal detachment



- There is a chance a cataract will develop in the next few years.
- Travel by aeroplane is prohibited whilst a gas bubble is in the eye.

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