



President : Dr Gerhard Kok / **Secretary** : Dr Rian Viljoen / **Treasurer** : Dr Jaco Maartens
Email: savrssecretary@gmail.com **Fax** 0866 188 640

3 Mei 2021

RE: INTRAVITREAL TREATMENTS

The Executive Committee of the SAVRS hereby provide some clarity regarding the need for intravitreal treatments to be performed under sedation or general anaesthesia in certain special cases (as mentioned in our official protocol on intravitreal injections):

1. Use of surgical microscope in theatre (could be in office based dedicated clean procedure room if available and if deemed feasible and safe by the surgeon):
 - Complex ocular anatomy – e.g. microphthalmos & microcornea, high myopia, staphyloma
 - Scleral pathology – e.g. scleromalacia, chemical or thermal burns
 - Previous ocular surgery involving sclera – e.g. previous glaucoma surgery, previous buckling surgery, previous scleral laceration
 - Intraocular implants or injections with large bore needles - e.g. Ozurdex
 - Monophthalmic eyes
 - Previous posterior vitrectomy with risk of wound leakage
 - Combined with other surgical procedures in theatre (e.g. combined with Cataract surgery, etc.)

2. Use of sedation or general anaesthetic (theatre setting required):
 - Psychiatric/mental disorders with impaired patient cooperation (including needle phobias and severe claustrophobia)
 - Minors (<18 years)

Regards,

Dr. AG Kok
(On behalf of SAVRS)