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Book Review: The Ophthalmic Laser Handbook

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Book Review: The Ophthalmic Laser Handbook

Abstract

Book Review: Freisberg L, Lighthizer N, Skorin, Jr. L, Stonecipher K, and Zimmerman A. *The Ophthalmic Laser Handbook*. First Edition. Wolters Kluwer Health; 2021. \$102.00, 350 pages, Paperback ISBN: 978-1975170172, e-book ISBN: 978-1975170219

Keywords

Laser, postoperative care, Glaucoma

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Freisberg L, Lighthizer N, Skorin, Jr. L, Stonecipher K, and Zimmerman A. *The Ophthalmic Laser Handbook*. First Edition. Wolters Kluwer Health; 2021. \$102.00, 350 pages, Paperback ISBN: 978-1975170172, e-book ISBN: 978-1975170219

The Ophthalmic Laser Handbook represents a welcome addition to any ophthalmic clinician's library. It is presented in both a paperback and electronic format. The concise, yet detailed descriptions of lasers in clinical use make it a handy reference for those performing laser procedures. The book is divided into 6 sections with 24 chapters. Each chapter is logically formatted with necessary figures and tables, as warranted, and complemented at the end with a comprehensive reference list. Several chapters also contain a supplemental reading list. Particularly useful for those unfamiliar with a given procedure are the embedded videos of selected procedures in each chapter of the electronic version of the book. I found this aspect particularly user friendly since it is tagged to the individual chapters. Many of the videos have sound narration, and those that do not have a printed narrative within the video. Descriptions are included as text beneath each video.

The fundamentals of ophthalmic lasers are introduced in section 1 and cover the salient features of the theory and application. Laser categories are described according to FDA and International Electrochemical Commission (IEC) specifications. Regulatory considerations as well as safety are nicely described. This section is completed with a review of possible laser injuries.

Section 2 includes all corneal laser procedures. Common procedures covered include Photorefractive Keratectomy (PRK), Laser in Situ Keratomileusis (LASIK) and Corneal Cross-Linking. Additional procedures described include Small-Incision Lenticule Extraction (SMILE) and the use of Femtosecond lasers in corneal transplantation. Each chapter is organized in an easily readable format that begins with a brief history of the procedure. Indications and contraindication are completely described, with each contraindication broken into "absolute" and "relative" as highlighted boxes within the text. Pertinent preoperative examination procedures are described as well as postoperative care, along with potential complications that may occur. Coding and billing considerations are briefly outlined at the end of each procedure.

Sections 3 and 4 cover laser procedures related to glaucoma treatment and cataract surgery. Both sections are arranged in the same format as section 2 and cover well known procedures such as endoscopic cyclophotocoagulation, iridotomies, iridoplasty, argon laser and selective laser trabeculoplasty. A more recent

procedure, micropulse laser trabeculoplasty is also described. As with previous sections, videos are included in the electronic version of the book. The cataract section focuses on femtosecond laser-assisted cataract surgery and Nd: YAG capsulotomies.

Section 5 describes retinal and vitreal laser surgeries. This includes panretinal photocoagulation, focal and grid macular laser as well as laser retinopexy. As with the other sections, the chapters have pertinent figures, and the electronic book has accompanied videos. Of particular interest was the expansive chapter on laser (vitrealysis) treatment for floaters. Clearly described, with pertinent indications and contraindications, vitrealysis is described in a practical as well as measured approach.

The last section is devoted to oculoplastics. Arranged in the same manner as all previous sections, it highlights intense pulsed light therapy, ablative, and non-ablative aesthetic lasers. Helpful tables are provided to aid the practitioner in precise settings based on the dermatological condition treated as well as Fitzpatrick skin types.

Overall, this book would make a great addition to any ophthalmic clinicians' library.