NEW EDITION OF RANZCO’s
Refractive Surgery - A Guide for Patients

Purpose
This edition of the patient education pamphlet was updated, with the addition of newer techniques and medical illustrations.

Method
The approved RANZCO publisher, Mi-tec Medical Publishing, invited Dr Ron Stasiuk to update the pamphlet in late 2016. Dr Stasiuk co-ordinates the review with several Fellows who specialise in this field. The following panel of Fellows reviewed the third edition of the patient education pamphlet: Dr Ale Tenen, Dr Frank Howes, Professor Gerard Sutton, Dr Raj Pathmaraj, Dr Con Moshegov, Dr Christopher Hodge and Dr Michael Lawless. As for the previous editions, Dr Levent Efe was the medical illustrator.

Results
Much consideration was given to the candidate-exclusion section, including “conditions that might exclude some patients from having refractive surgery.” Also: “Your ophthalmologist may still decide that refractive surgery may be appropriate, as long as you understand its risks, benefits and limitations. Treatment may be possible in select patients.”

Some examples are:
- cases of stable herpetic keratitis with no recurrence for many years can have treatment with oral antiviral
- about the type of refractive surgery that would be most
- whether your eyes may benefit from refractive surgery
- some cases of keratoconus with scarring having PRK, dry eye syndrome, severe myopia and autoimmune
- conductive keratoplasty was deleted. Stability of refraction was increased to at least 12 months.
- Newer technologies such as Presby-LASIK, corneal inlays for presbyopia, and SMILE were added, while
- patient education that would help to reduce medico-legal risks.
- Medico-legal advice was obtained from Avant and MIGA insurers. Avant recommended extra pre-operative
- consent form:

   - If you have treatment,
   - your ophthalmologist will ask you to
   - sign a consent form. Read it carefully.
   - If you have any questions about the
   - current form, surgery, risks or related
   - matters, ask your ophthalmologist.

Contact form:
If you have treatment, your ophthalmologist will ask you to sign a consent form. Read it carefully. If you have any questions about the current form, surgery, risks or related matters, ask your ophthalmologist.

Conclusion
The revised six-page patient education pamphlet on Refractive Surgery is a valuable tool to assist the informed consent process, with a sticky label for patient records. The Author highly recommends the use of such patient information when considering refractive surgery.

Autography
Dr Ron Stasiuk has significant experience in Cataract Refractive Surgery with a special interest in Multifocal IOLs, Phakic lens Implants, Fugy-back implants with the first description of the Red Rock Syndrome that was awarded a Video Oscar at the Boston ASCRS, complicated Cataract Surgery and Laser Refractive Surgery. He was also a Foundation partner in the Melbourne Excimer Laser Group and Vision Eye Institute. Although he has retired from operating due to RSI, he still consults at Vision Eye Institute Blackburn.

*Page 6 of the pamphlet contains a list of possible complications of refractive surgery.*