

**FEBRUARY 2021**  
**VERSION 1.0**

## **DEFINITION**

Retina is the area of enhanced competence within Ophthalmology concerned with the screening, diagnosis, prevention, and management of medical and surgical disorders of the posterior segment of the eye<sup>1</sup>, including the retina, choroid, and sclera.

## **GOALS**

Upon completion of training, a diplomate is expected to function as a competent specialist in Retina, capable of an enhanced practice in this area of focused competence (AFC) within the scope of Ophthalmology. The AFC trainee must acquire a working knowledge of the theoretical basis of the discipline, including its foundations in science and research, as it applies to medical/surgical practice.

The discipline of Retina includes responsibility for the following:

1. Assessment of patients with diseases of the posterior segment of the eye
2. Performance of minor procedures for patients with diseases of the posterior segment of the eye
3. Surgical management for patients with diseases of the posterior segment of the eye

## **NOTES:**

All markers must be signed off by supervisor prior to being added to the portfolio.

All submitted cases or clinical material must be de-identified to preserve patient privacy. This requires the removal of key identifiers, including name, birth date, date of consultation, and location (e.g., hospital/clinic, city).

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Diplomates must demonstrate the requisite knowledge, skills, and behaviours for effective patient-centred care and service to a diverse population. In all aspects of specialist practice, the diplomate must be able to address ethical issues and issues of gender, sexual orientation, age, culture, beliefs, and ethnicity in a professional manner.

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<sup>1</sup> *This term is abbreviated to "posterior segment" in some instances to avoid repetition.*

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At the completion of training, the AFC trainee must demonstrate evidence of acquisition of the competencies listed on the following pages.

In the view of the AFC Program Committee, this candidate has acquired the competencies of the diploma program as prescribed in the *Competency Portfolio* and is competent to practise as a diplomate.  **YES**  **NO**

<b>1. Assessment of patients with diseases of the posterior segment of the eye</b>		
<b>Milestones</b>	<b>Standards of Assessment</b>	<b>Evidence of Achievement</b>
<p>1.1. Perform history and physical examination related to posterior segment of the eye</p>	<p>The documents must demonstrate the candidate's satisfactory:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• collection of an appropriate history relevant to posterior segment disease</li> <li>• visualization of all ocular structures of the posterior segment</li> <li>• performance of indirect ophthalmoscopy, including scleral depression</li> </ul> <p>The case mix must include a variety of clinical conditions.</p> <p>The case mix must include at least 2 of each of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• peripheral disease</li> <li>• macular disease</li> </ul>	<p>5 of any of the following with supervisor sign-off:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• consultation notes</li> <li>• observation forms</li> </ul> <p>Note: the documents submitted for item 1.1 may be based on the same activity or may be the same document as the submission in items 1.2 and 1.3</p>
<p>1.2. Select and interpret the results of diagnostic tests</p>	<p>The documents must demonstrate the candidate's satisfactory:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• selection and interpretation of diagnostic tests, including those that assess the posterior segment of the eye: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ optical coherence tomography (OCT)</li> <li>○ angiography</li> <li>○ fundus autofluorescence</li> <li>○ ocular ultrasound</li> <li>○ reports of electrophysiology</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>The case mix must include a variety of clinical conditions.</p> <p>The case mix must include at least 3 of each the following:</p>	<p>10 of any of the following with supervisor sign-off:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• consultation notes</li> <li>• observation forms</li> </ul> <p>Note: the documents submitted for item 1.2 may be based on the same activity or may be the same document as the submission in items 1.1 and 1.3</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• peripheral disease</li> <li>• macular disease</li> </ul>	
<p>1.3. Establish an appropriate management plan</p>	<p>The documents must demonstrate the candidate's satisfactory:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• integration of the history, exam, and results of multimodal imaging and other tests to develop a differential diagnosis</li> <li>• consideration of the retinal manifestations of systemic diseases</li> <li>• discussion of surgical and non-surgical approaches and justification for the preferred approach</li> <li>• development and implementation of an appropriate management plan</li> <li>• as relevant, discussion leading to informed consent, including explanation of the surgical procedure, type of anesthesia, risks, benefits, and possible adverse effects</li> <li>• as relevant, consultation with other health care providers for assessment of co-morbidities</li> <li>• documentation of the encounter</li> </ul> <p>The case mix must include a variety of clinical conditions.</p> <p>The case mix must include at least 2 of each of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• peripheral disease</li> <li>• macular disease</li> </ul>	<p>5 of any of the following with supervisor sign-off:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• consultation notes</li> <li>• observation forms</li> </ul> <p>Note: the documents submitted for item 1.3 may be based on the same activity or may be the same document as the submission in items 1.1 and 1.2</p>

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<p>1.4. Collaborate in multidisciplinary teams for the integrated care of patients with systemic diseases that affect the posterior segment</p>	<p>The documents must demonstrate the candidate's satisfactory:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• provision of consultative services</li><li>• communication and collaboration with other healthcare professionals</li><li>• facilitation of shared decision-making</li><li>• advocacy for patients</li><li>• contribution of expertise to discussion and decision-making as it relates to the eye condition</li></ul> <p>Multisource feedback must include at least 4 contributors, including at least 2 physicians from different disciplines and at least 1 individual from another health discipline/profession.</p>	<p>Collated results of multisource feedback</p>
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<b>2. Performance of minor procedures for patients with diseases of the posterior segment of the eye</b>		
<b>Milestones</b>	<b>Standards of Assessment</b>	<b>Evidence of Achievement</b>
2.1 Prepare patients for procedures	The documents must demonstrate the candidate's satisfactory preparation of the case, including patient positioning and required instrumentation	3 Observation forms  <b>AND</b> 3 of any of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• consultation notes</li> <li>• chart reviews</li> </ul>
2.2 Perform procedures on the posterior segment	The logbook must collect information on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• diagnosis</li> <li>• age</li> <li>• gender</li> <li>• procedure</li> <li>• role of candidate in the procedure</li> </ul> <p>The logbook must demonstrate experience in performing a wide spectrum of procedures for treating a variety of diseases of the posterior segment of the eye.</p>	Logbook of procedures
2.2.1 Retinal laser	The documents must demonstrate the candidate's satisfactory: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• plan for the procedure, including modality, lens, and laser settings</li> <li>• application of safety precautions</li> <li>• administration of anesthesia</li> <li>• application of laser and titration to achieve desired treatment effect</li> </ul> <p>The case mix must include a variety of clinical conditions.</p> <p>The submissions must include at least 2 cases of each use of the following:</p>	5 of any of the following with supervisor sign-off: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• observation forms</li> <li>• procedure notes</li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• contact lens laser</li> <li>• indirect laser</li> </ul>	
2.2.2 Cryotherapy	<p>The documents must demonstrate the candidate's satisfactory:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• plan for the procedure</li> <li>• application of safety precautions</li> <li>• administration of anesthesia</li> <li>• performance of cryotherapy</li> <li>• titration to the desired clinical effect</li> </ul>	<p>2 of any of the following with supervisor sign-off:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• observation forms</li> <li>• procedure notes</li> </ul>
2.2.3 Periocular injections	<p>The documents must demonstrate the candidate's satisfactory:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• plan for the procedure</li> <li>• selection of the pharmacological agent and dose</li> <li>• application of safety precautions</li> <li>• administration of anesthesia</li> <li>• injection of the pharmacological agent in the correct anatomical location</li> </ul>	<p>3 of any of the following with supervisor sign-off:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• observation forms</li> <li>• procedure notes</li> </ul>
2.2.4 Intravitreal injections	<p>The documents must demonstrate the candidate's satisfactory:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• plan for the procedure</li> <li>• selection of the pharmacological agent and dose</li> <li>• application of safety precautions, including sterile preparation</li> <li>• administration of anesthesia</li> <li>• vitreous tissue sampling, if indicated</li> <li>• injection of the pharmacological agent into the vitreous</li> </ul> <p>The case mix must include at least 2 cases with vitreous sampling</p>	<p>5 of any of the following with supervisor sign-off:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• observation forms</li> <li>• procedure notes</li> </ul>

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<p>2.3 Provide immediate post-procedure recommendations</p>	<p>The documents must demonstrate the candidate's satisfactory provision of advice to the patient regarding post-operative medical management, activities, and maintenance of appropriate posture.</p>	<p>3 of any of the following with supervisor sign-off:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• observation forms</li> <li>• consultation notes</li> </ul>
<p>2.4 Manage post-procedure complications</p>	<p>The documents must demonstrate the candidate's satisfactory:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• recognition of the significance of the complication</li> <li>• timely and appropriate management</li> </ul> <p>The case mix must include one peri-procedural and one delayed complication.</p>	<p>2 of any of the following with supervisor sign-off:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• observation forms</li> <li>• consultation notes</li> </ul>



<b>3. Surgical management for patients with diseases of the posterior segment of the eye</b>		
<b>Milestones</b>	<b>Standards of Assessment</b>	<b>Evidence of Achievement</b>
3.1 Perform surgical procedures on the posterior segment	<p>The logbook must collect information on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• diagnosis</li> <li>• age</li> <li>• gender</li> <li>• procedure</li> <li>• role of candidate in the procedure</li> </ul> <p>The logbook must demonstrate experience in performing a wide spectrum of surgical procedures for treating a variety of diseases of the posterior segment of the eye.</p>	(i) Logbook of surgical procedures
3.1.1 Posterior vitrectomy surgery	<p>The documents must demonstrate the candidate's satisfactory performance of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the general steps of surgical procedures                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ assess patient readiness for surgery</li> <li>○ prepare case and review plan of management, including patient positioning and required instruments</li> <li>○ select and apply anesthesia</li> <li>○ apply safety precautions</li> <li>○ collaborate with the operating room team</li> <li>○ plan post-operative care</li> </ul> </li> <li>• the following specific steps:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ multiport pars plana vitrectomy with infusion line under contact and non-</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>5 of any of the following with supervisor sign-off:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• procedure notes</li> <li>• observation forms</li> </ul>

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	<p>contact visualization</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ control of endo-illumination and vitrectomy fluidics</li> <li>○ management of ocular pathology</li> <li>○ selection of vitreous replacement and tamponade</li> </ul> <p>The case mix must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• at least one case with complex retinal detachment</li> <li>• at least one complex lens case</li> </ul>	
<p>3.1.2 Scleral buckling surgery</p>	<p>The documents must demonstrate the candidate's satisfactory performance of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the general steps of surgical procedures as described in 3.1.1</li> <li>• the following specific steps: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ identification of ocular pathology</li> <li>○ selection of buckle element</li> <li>○ cryopexy, if required</li> <li>○ securement of scleral buckle to the globe</li> <li>○ application of laser, if required</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>The case mix must include at least one of each of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• application of cryopexy</li> <li>• application of laser</li> </ul>	<p>3 of any of the following with supervisor sign-off:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• observation forms</li> <li>• procedure notes</li> </ul>
<p>3.1.3 Complex ocular trauma repair</p>	<p>The documents must demonstrate the candidate's satisfactory performance of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the general steps of surgical procedures described in 3.1.1</li> <li>• the following specific steps: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ formulation of a plan of repair, including multidisciplinary approach</li> <li>○ identification and management of open globe</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>2 of any of the following with supervisor sign-off:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• observation forms</li> <li>• procedure notes</li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ pathology</li> <li>○ removal of intraocular foreign body and lens material, if required</li> <li>○ selection and prescription of antibiotic therapy</li> </ul>	
3.1.4 Pneumatic retinopathy	<p>The documents must demonstrate the candidate's satisfactory performance of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the general steps of surgical procedures described in 3.1.1</li> <li>• the following specific steps: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ identification of pathology</li> <li>○ selection of tamponade and concentration</li> <li>○ cryopexy, if required</li> <li>○ anterior chamber paracentesis</li> <li>○ intravitreal injection of gas</li> <li>○ laser, if required</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>The case mix must include at least one of each of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• application of cryopexy</li> <li>• application of laser</li> </ul>	<p>3 of any of the following with supervisor sign-off:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• observation forms</li> <li>• procedure notes</li> </ul>
3.2 Provide post-operative care	<p>The documents must demonstrate the candidate's satisfactory:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• counselling of patients on positioning, precautions, and post-operative care</li> <li>• orientation of patients to the expected post-operative course and when to seek medical assistance</li> <li>• prescription of post-operative medications</li> <li>• arrangement for long-term post-operative care</li> </ul> <p>The case mix must include a variety of diseases of the posterior segment of the eye.</p>	<p>2 of any of the following with supervisor sign-off:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• observation form</li> <li>• procedure notes</li> <li>• consultation notes</li> </ul>

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<p>3.3 Manage post-procedure complications</p>	<p>The documents must demonstrate the candidate's satisfactory:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• recognition of the significance of the complication</li><li>• timely and appropriate management</li></ul> <p>The case mix must include one peri-procedural and one delayed complication.</p>	<p>2 of any of the following with supervisor sign-off:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• observation forms</li><li>• consultation notes</li></ul>
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*Drafted – AFC Working Group in Retina; Office of Specialty Education – November 2020*

*Approved – Specialty Standards Review Committee – December 2020*