

LASERS

shots in the dark...

Robin D Hamilton

Moorfields Eye Hospital, London, UK



Light

Amplified

Stimulated

Emission

Radiation

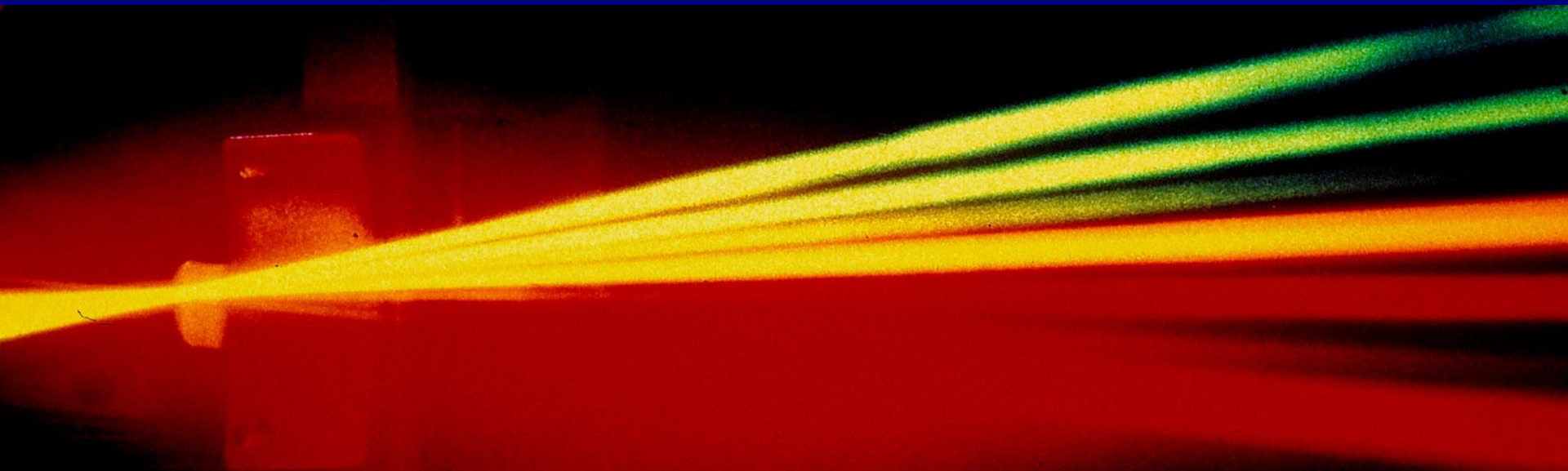
Lucrative

Acquisition

Scheme

Expensive

Research

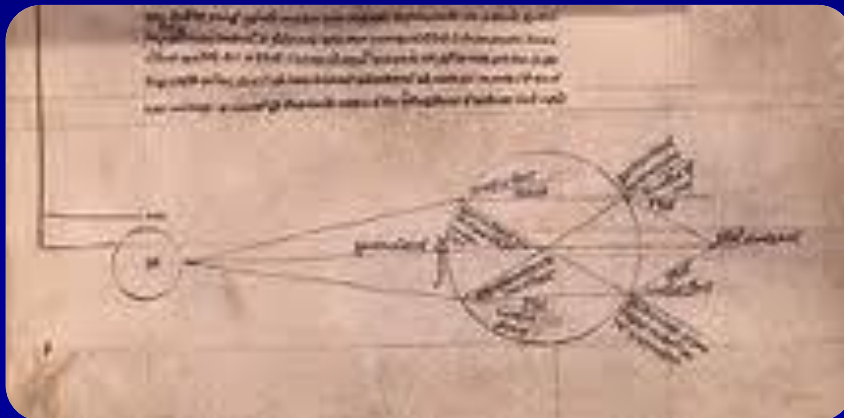
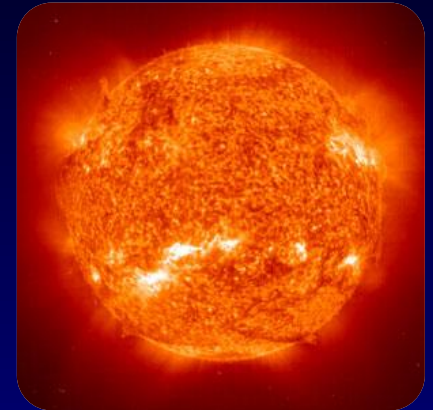




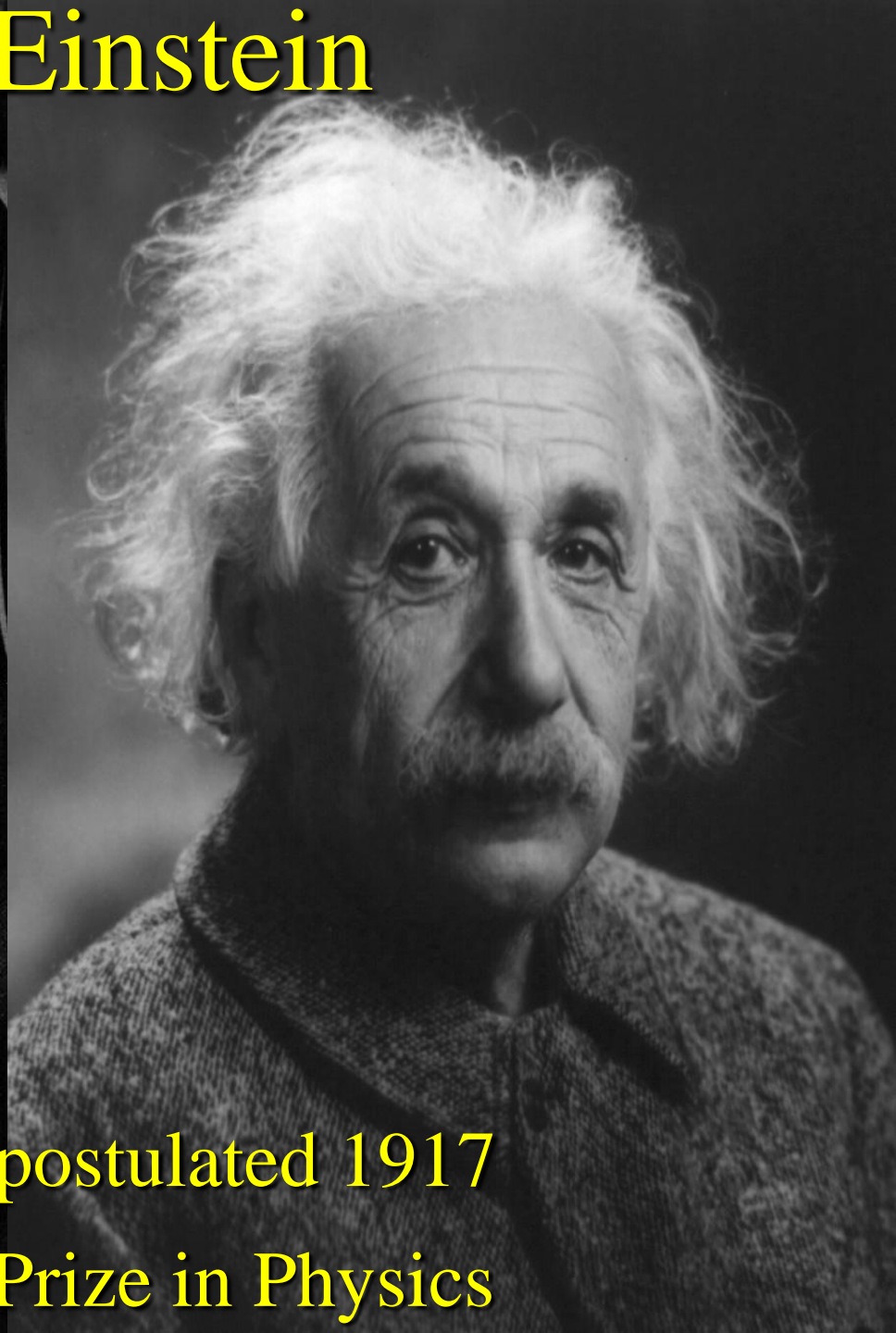
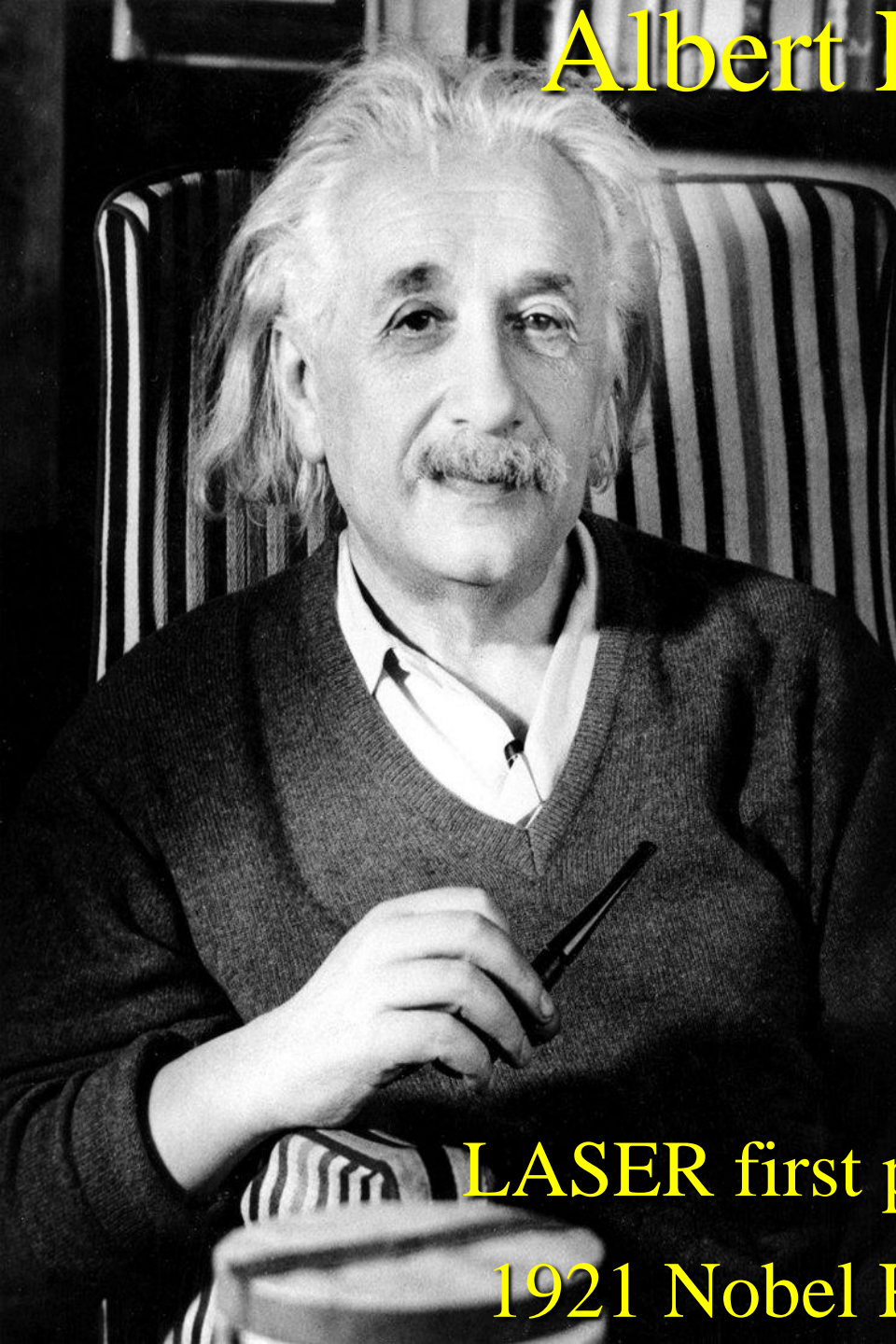
L.A.S.E.R.

Light **A**mplification by **S**timulated **E**mission of **R**adiation

- The effect of solar radiation was well known to humanity since the time of the ancients in China and in the West (Greece)
- Theophilus Bonetus (1620-1689) reported central scotoma (blind spot) following solar burn of the retina



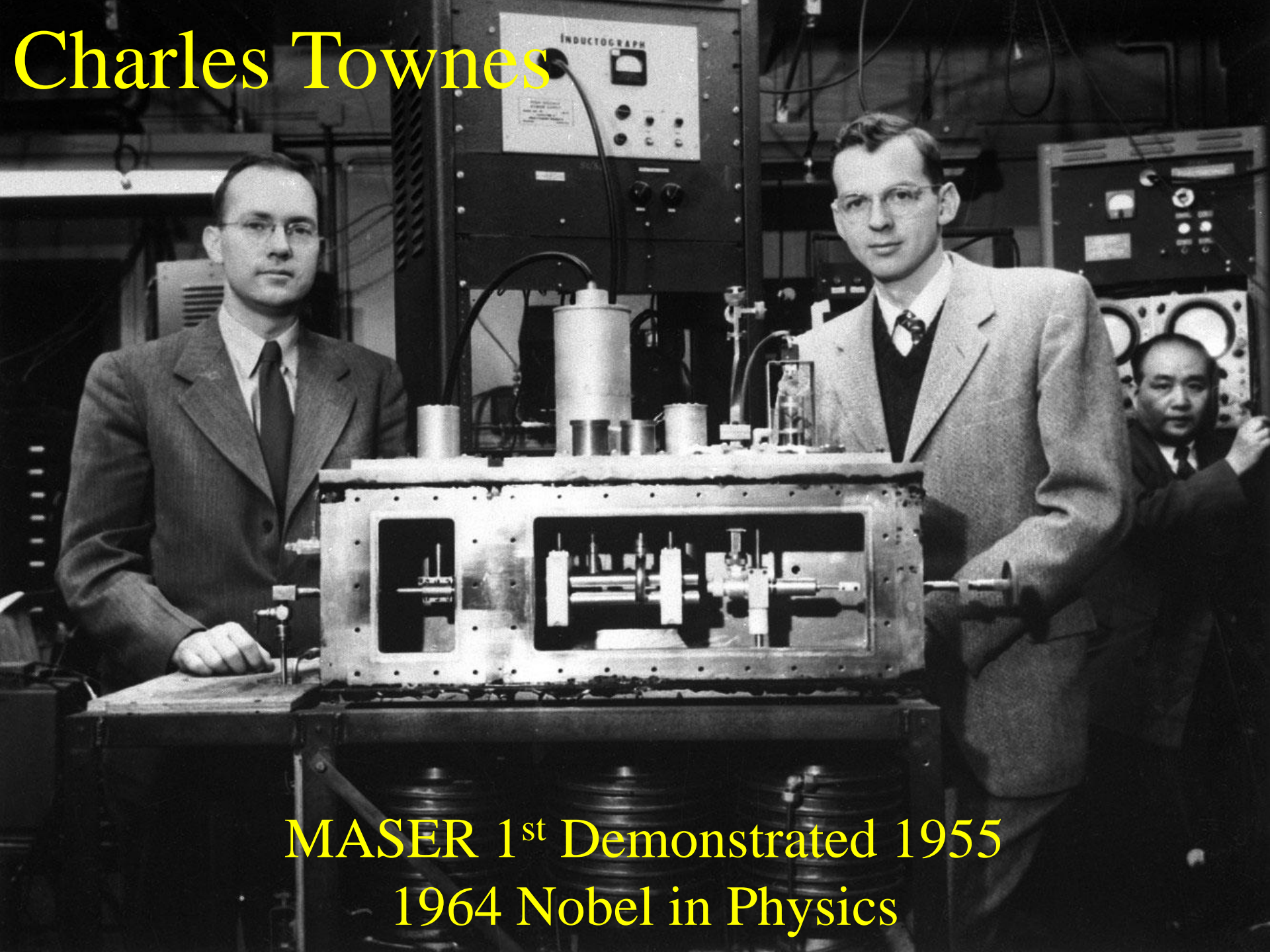
Albert Einstein



LASER first postulated 1917

1921 Nobel Prize in Physics

Charles Townes



MASER 1st Demonstrated 1955
1964 Nobel in Physics

Theodore Maiman



LASER first demonstrated 1960

Nominated twice for Nobel Prize in Physics

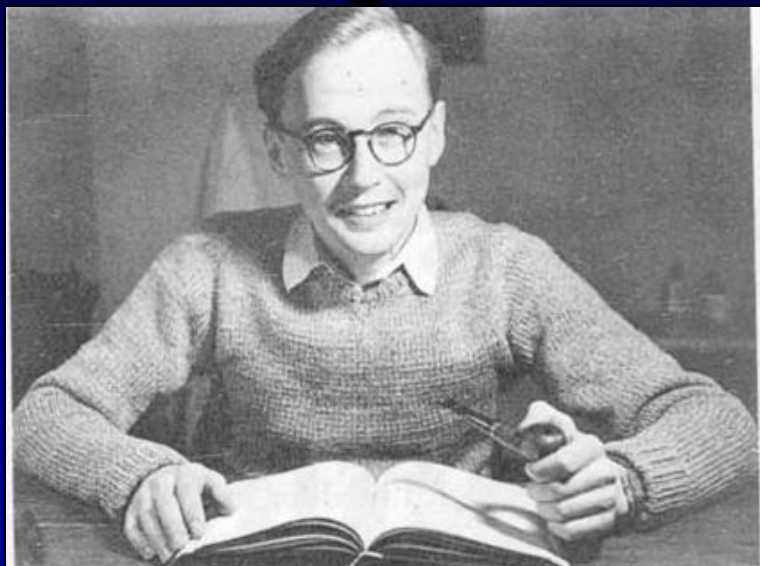


007

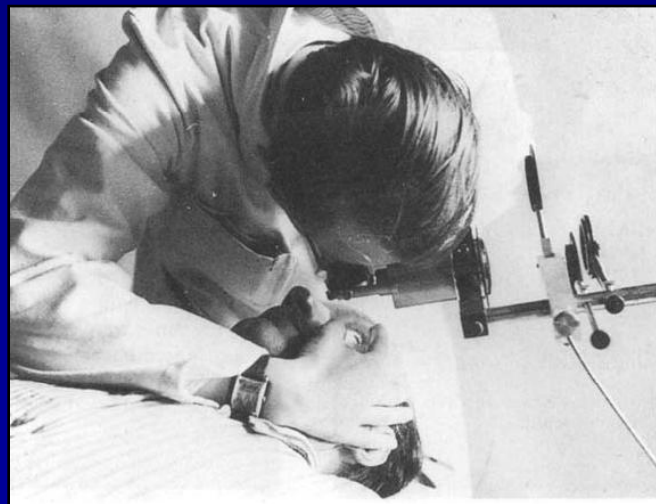
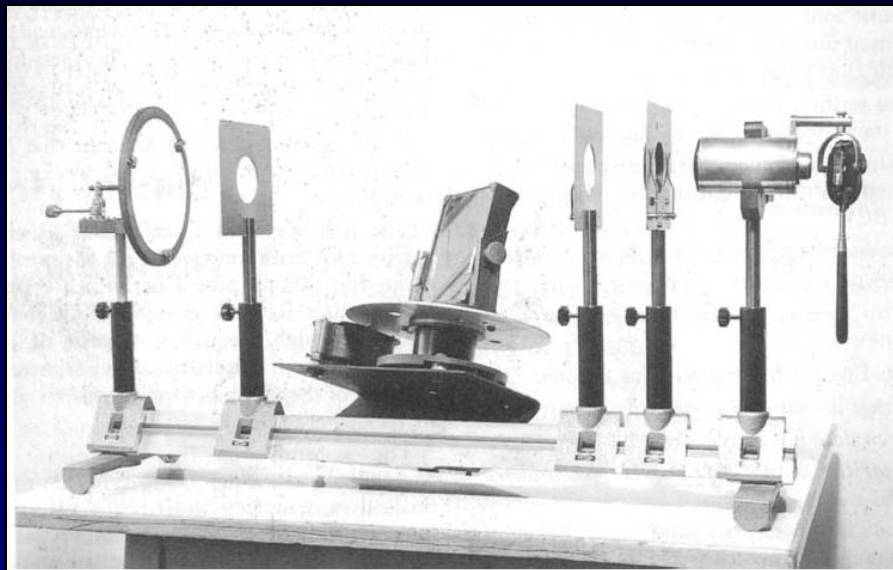
1964



Revolution

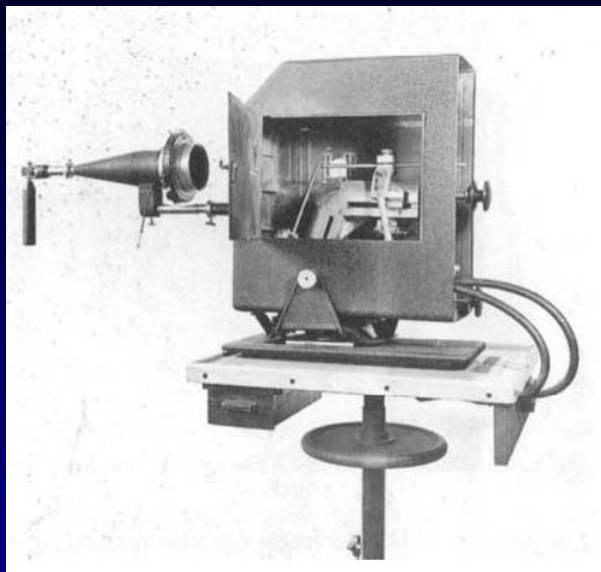


Gerard Meyer-Schwikerath
1946

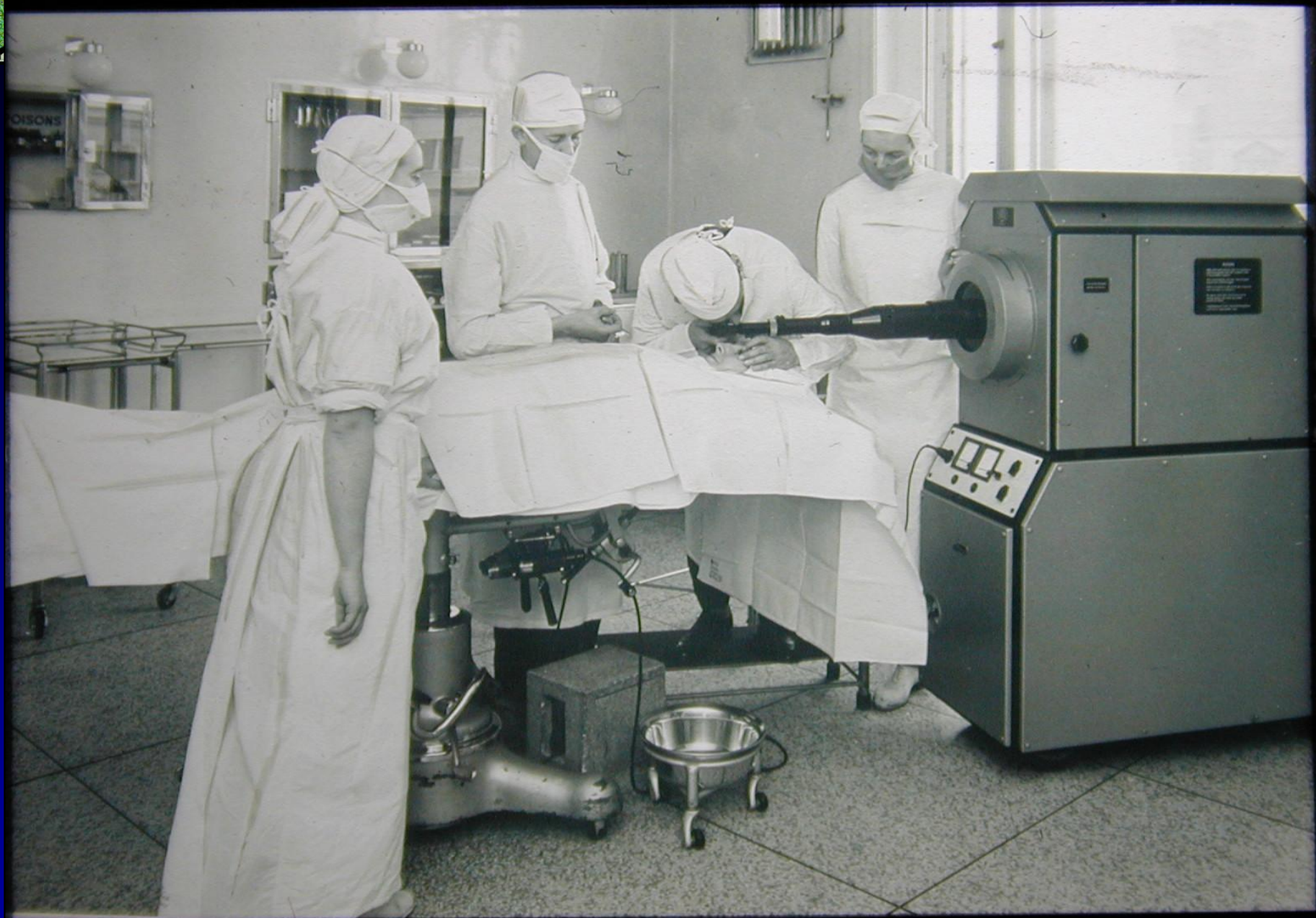




Evolution

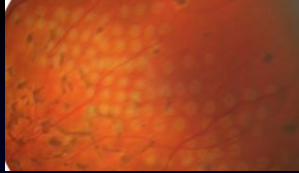


**Carl Zeiss
Xenon arc
lamp**



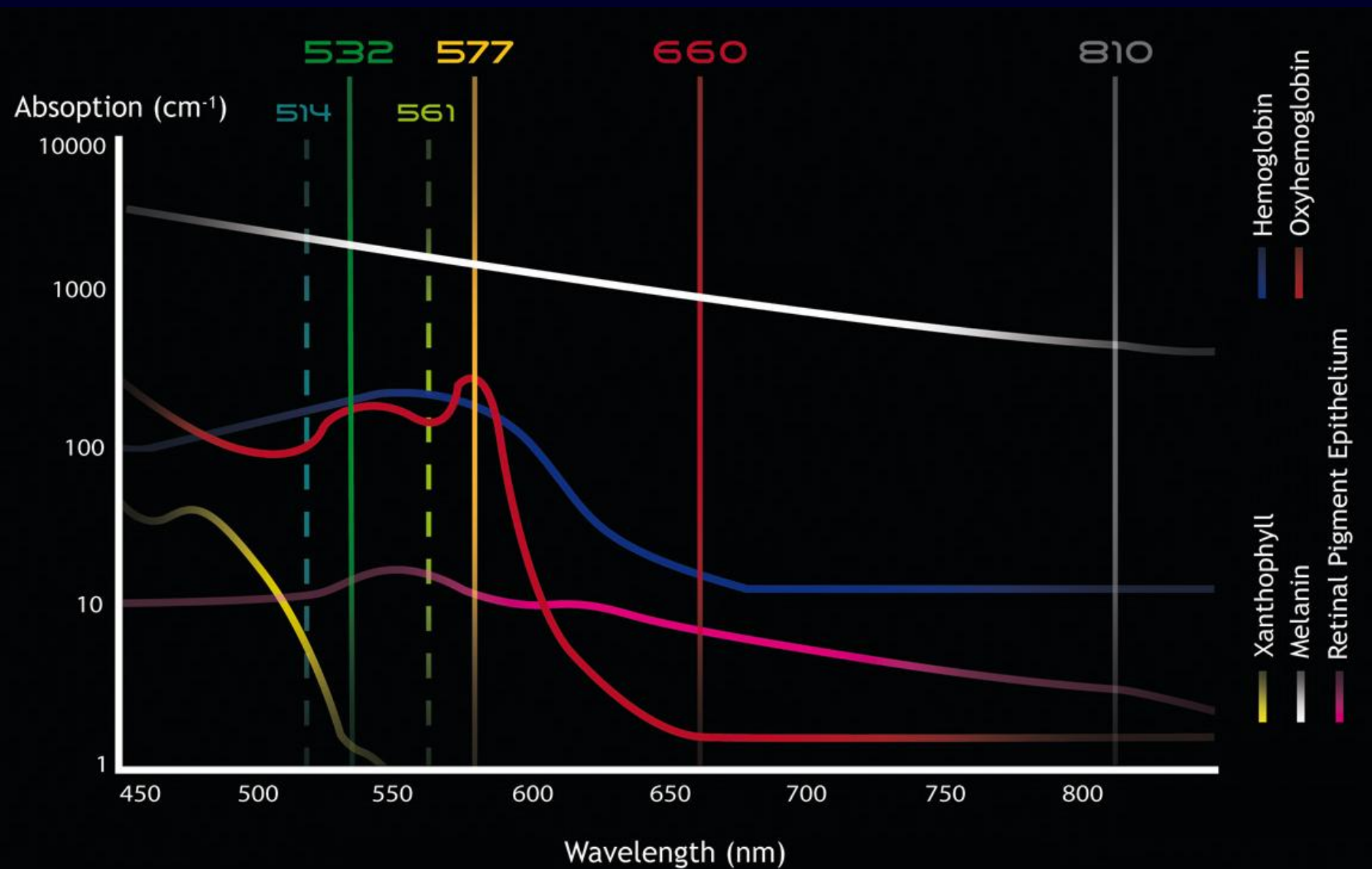
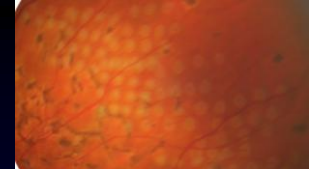


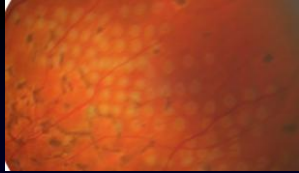




Wavelengths

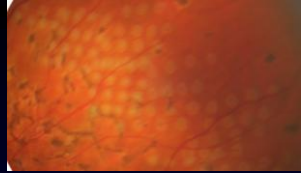
- Excimer 193 nm
- Argon Blue 488 nm
- Argon green 514 nm
- **FD-YAG green 532 nm** very high RPE absorption
- Krypton yellow 568 nm
- **Solid State Yellow 561nm 577 nm**
- Dye Orange to Red 590-630 nm
- Krypton red 647 nm
- **Solid State red 670 nm**
- Ruby red 694 nm
- Diode 810 nm 30% RPE absorption
- FD-YAG 1064 nm





Laser Pulse Durations

- Conventional photocoagulation
 - 100 ms
- YAG Laser
 - 3 ns
 - 100 ms = 100 million ns
- Femtosecond lasers
 - 3 ns = 3 million fs
 - One femtosecond is to one second as one second is to 31 million years!



History of photocoagulation

1946/1956 Xenon lamp

1964/1968 Argon lasers

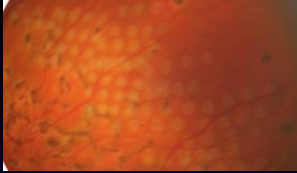
1971/1972 Nd:YAG lasers

1980/1981 Q switched Nd:YAG lasers

2005/2006 First multispot laser

2012 Multispot lasers, micropulses, SRT, 2RT...

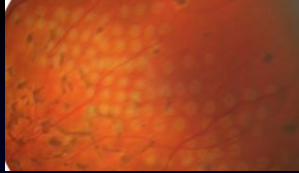
2025... ?



Multispot laser technology





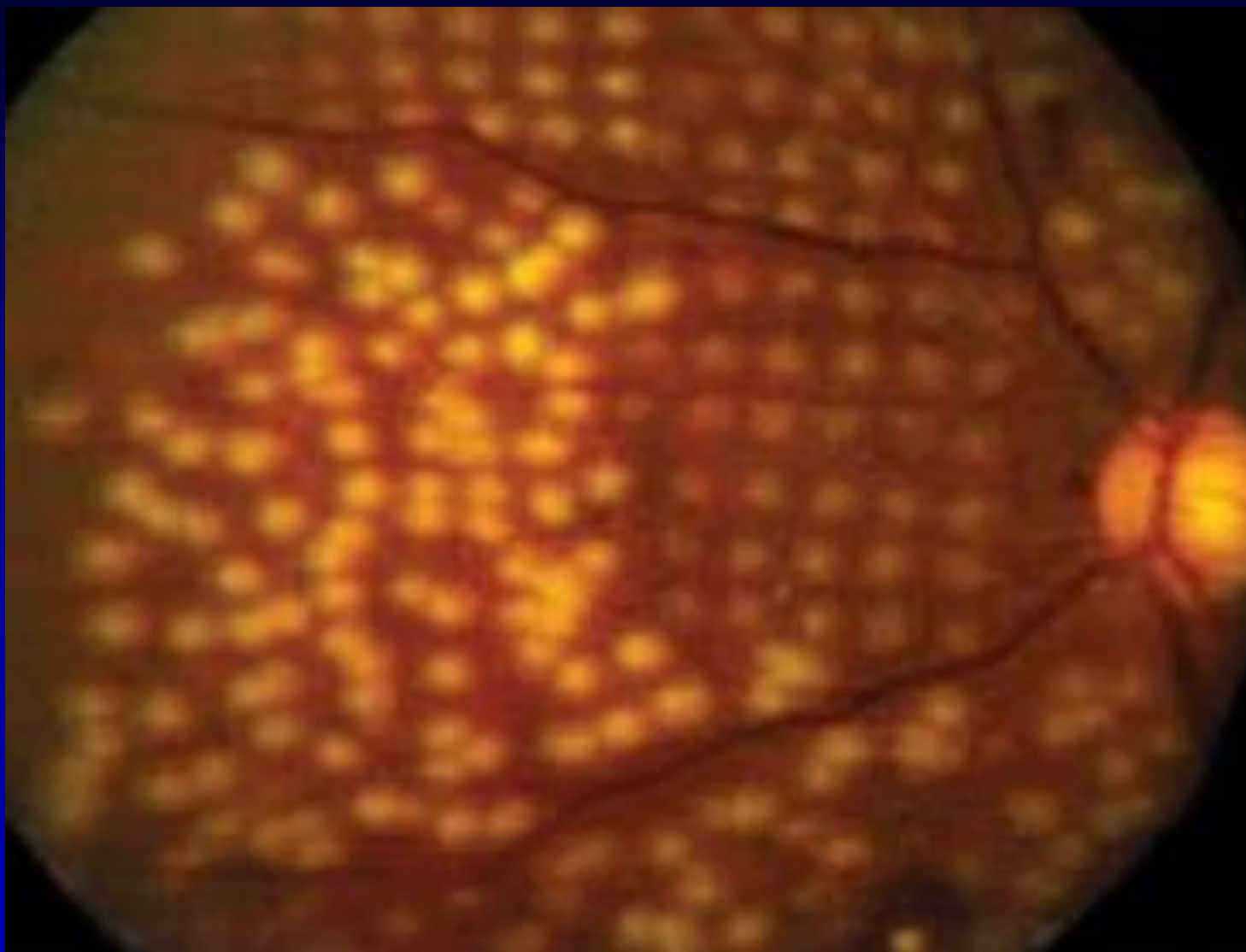
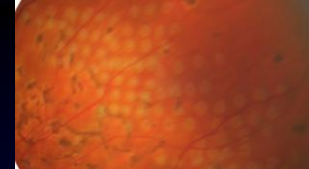


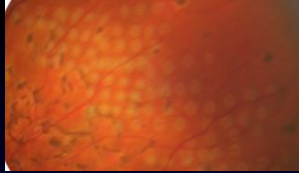
Multispot lasers

First multispot laser: PASCAL.

Later multispot versions: Valon, Ellex, Quantel Medical, Nidek, Zeiss, Lightmed and OD – OS.

Different approaches to the delivery, variable quality of the laser beam, exposure time, parameters stability and number of spots.





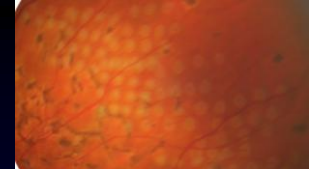
Multi-spot features

Advantages

- Ultrafast
- Painless
- Precise
- Less collateral damage
- Innovative and user friendly
- Versatile

Disadvantages

- Too fast?
- Spot size - preset
- Short pulse
- Less collateral damage?
- Not applicable for OP

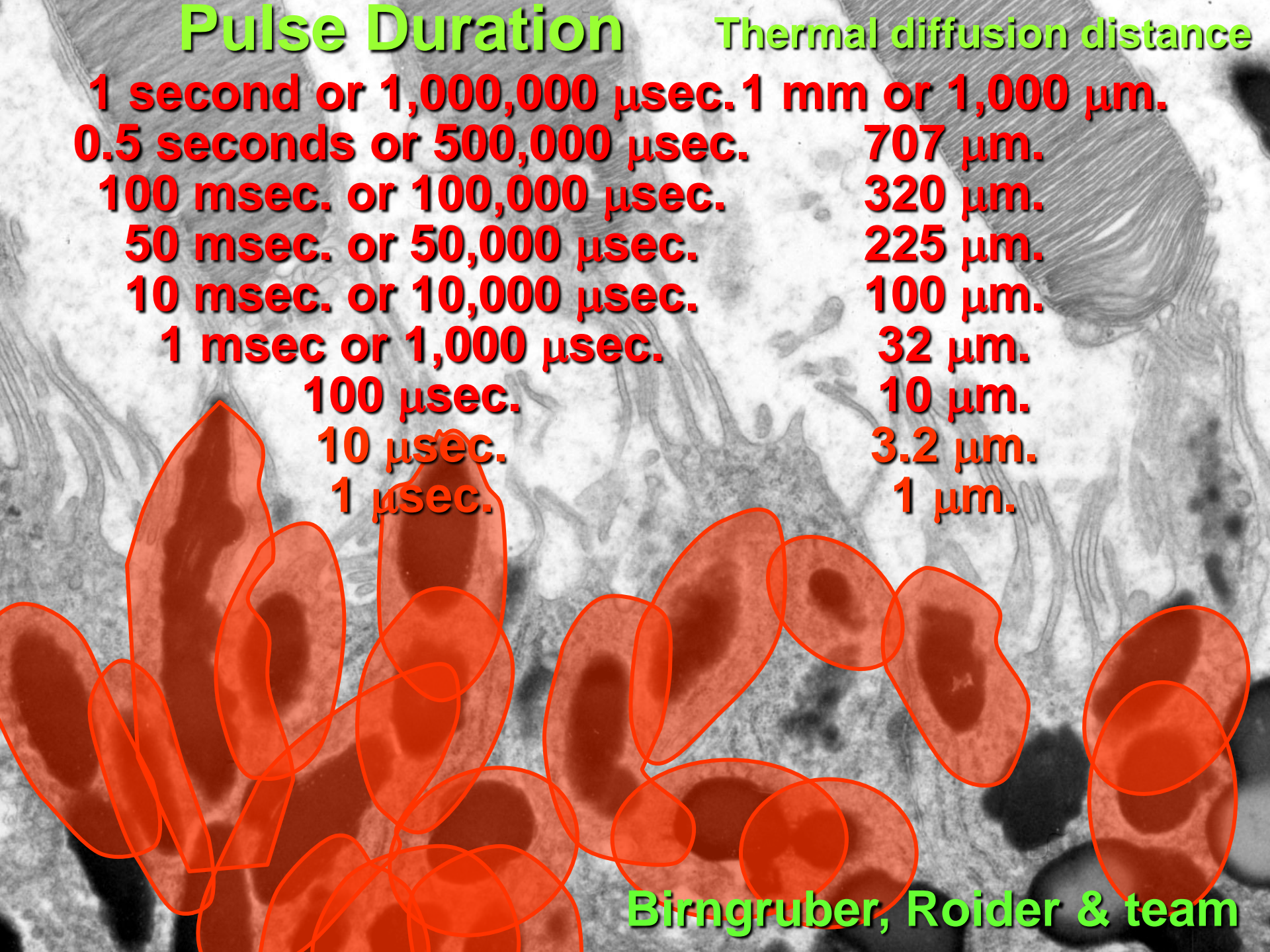


Short pulse duration - advantages

1. No thermal diffusion, vertically nor horizontally
 - Minimal tissue damage
 - Less pain, better patient compliance
 - No risks of macular oedema and other complication
2. Smaller influence of power changes on spot size and intensity (20 msec vs. 100 msec)
3. Full PRP in one sitting (single-session procedure)

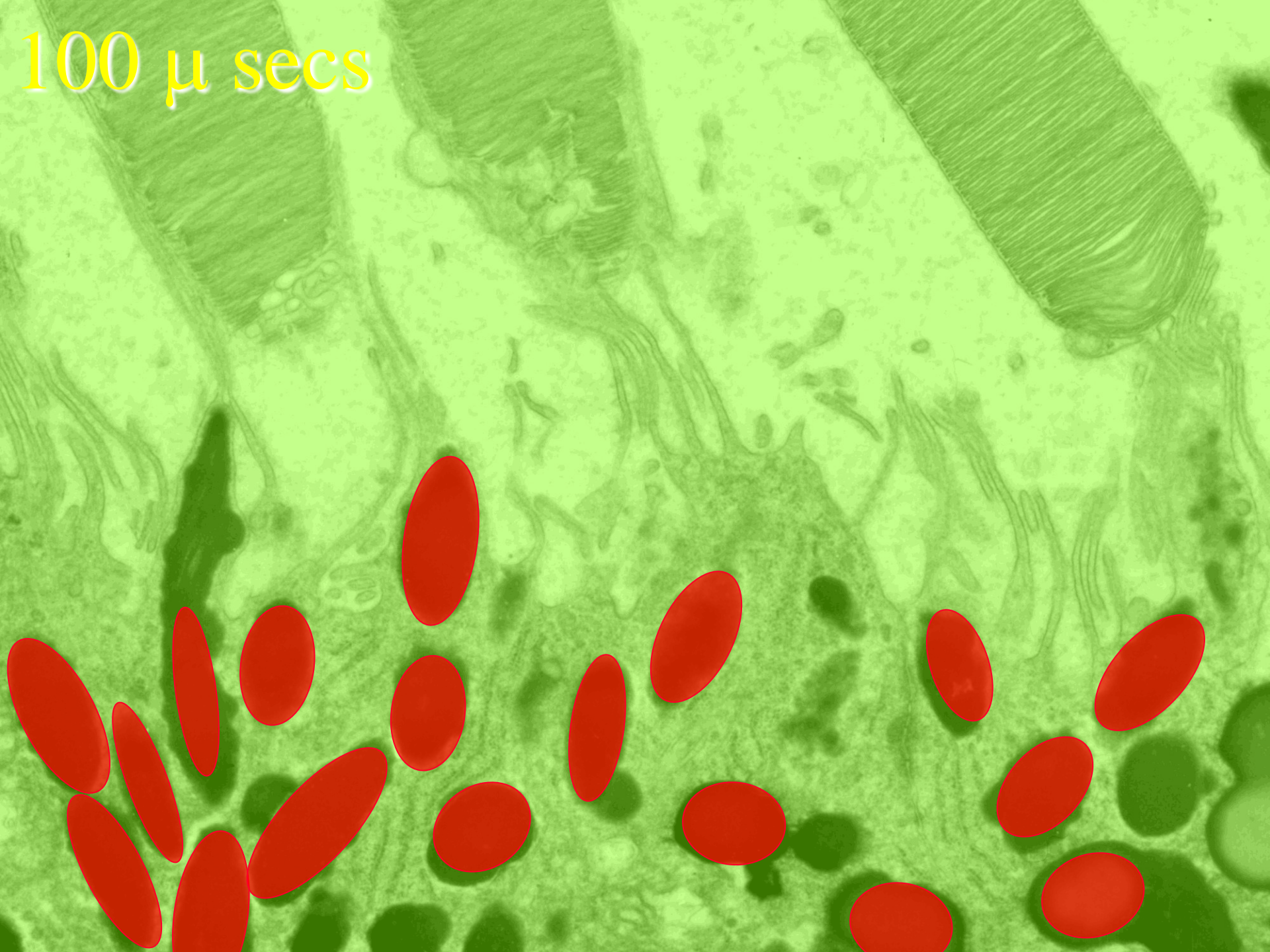
Pulse Duration

Thermal diffusion distance

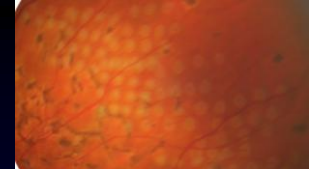


1 second or 1,000,000 μsec .	1 mm or 1,000 μm .
0.5 seconds or 500,000 μsec .	707 μm .
100 msec. or 100,000 μsec .	320 μm .
50 msec. or 50,000 μsec .	225 μm .
10 msec. or 10,000 μsec .	100 μm .
1 msec or 1,000 μsec .	32 μm .
100 μsec .	10 μm .
10 μsec .	3.2 μm .
1 μsec .	1 μm .

Birngruber, Roeder & team



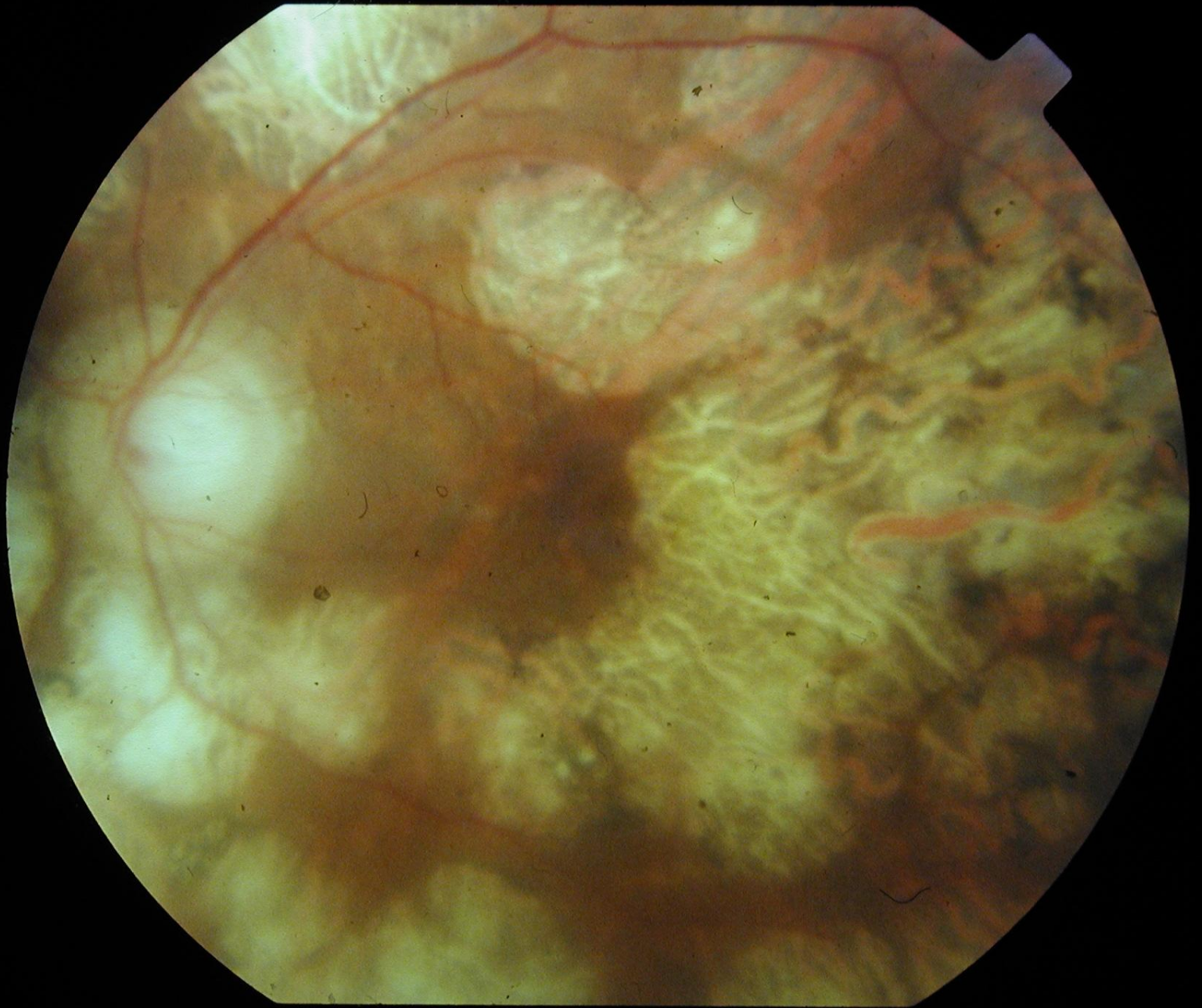
100 μ secs



Painless procedure - low energy

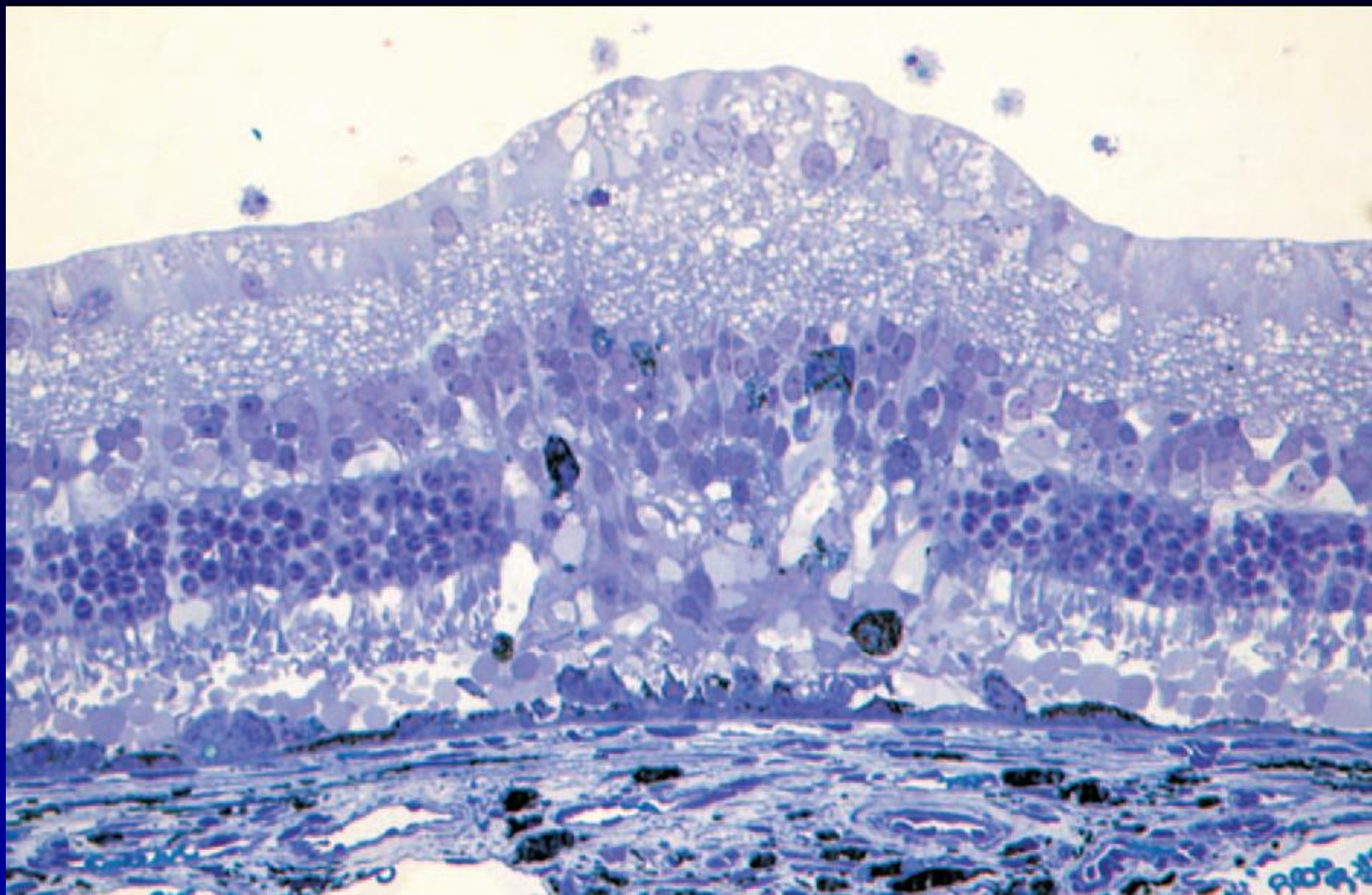
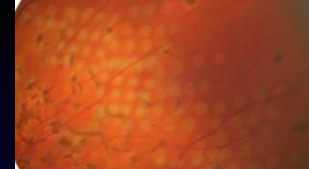
Fluence = amount of energy delivered to the particular area

$$\text{Fluence (J/cm}^2\text{)} = \frac{\text{Power (J/s) x pulse duration (s)}}{\text{Area (}\pi r^2\text{)}}$$





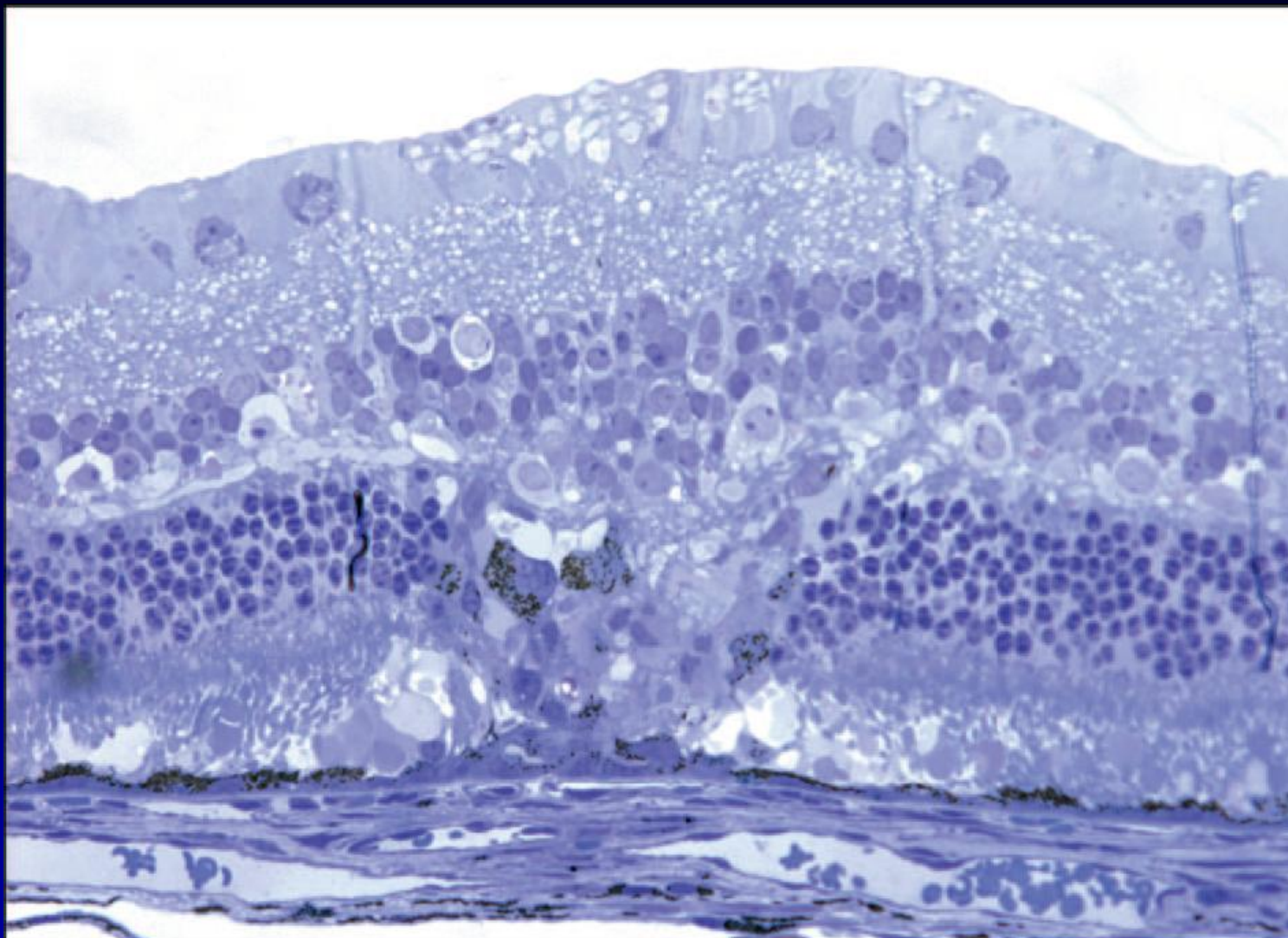
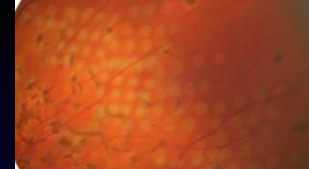
Conventional Photocoagulation



Single retinal lesion 100 millisecond pulse at 60 mW at 1 week (rabbit)



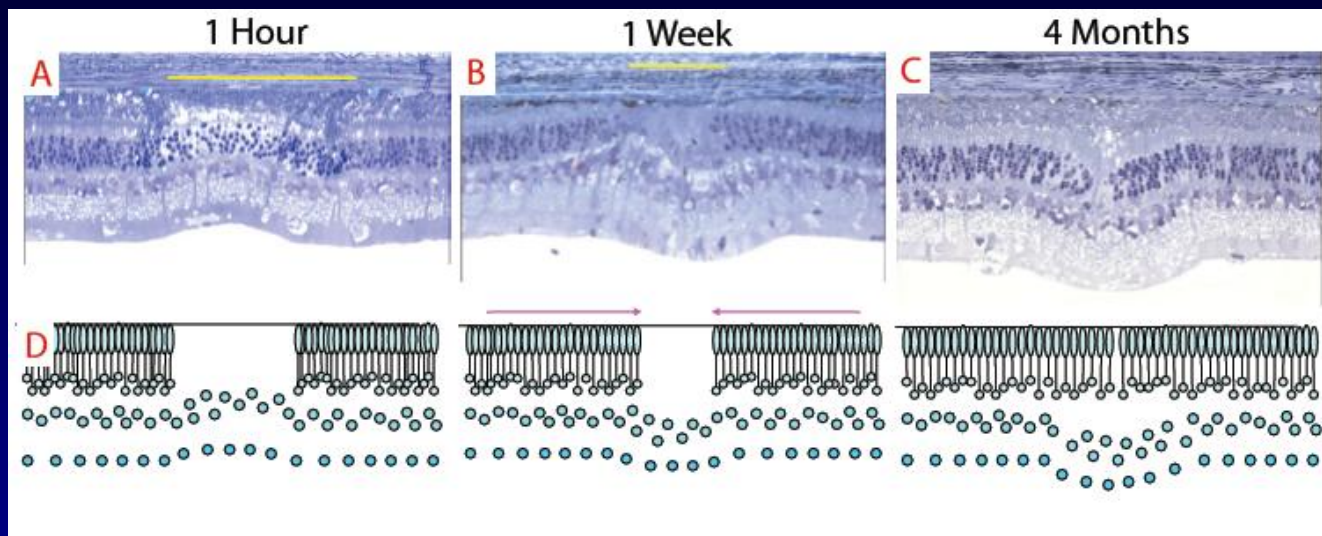
Semi-Automated Patterned Scanner



Single retinal lesion 10 millisecond pulse at 240 mW at 1 week (rabbit)



Migration of photoreceptors



A By standard toluidine blue stains, nuclei of photoreceptors in the photocoagulation site appear pyknotic at 1 hour, and disappear within 2 days. Inner nuclear layer and ganglion cell layers appear intact but are deformed due to the changes in the photoreceptor and RPE layers.

B By one week, Müller glia fill in the photoreceptor decimated region. The RPE layer appears restored, though hypopigmented in the center of the lesion and contracted to 50% of its original size.

C At 4 months, photoreceptor organization in the center of the lesion continues to improve and is distinguished from adjacent normal retina only by a narrow column of Müller glia, and a slight elevation on the vitreal side of the retina.

Photoreceptor morphology within lesions is otherwise indistinguishable from that in the untreated retina and appear to shift from the adjacent areas into the lesion, filling it over time, as schematically shown in D.



Changes of spot size

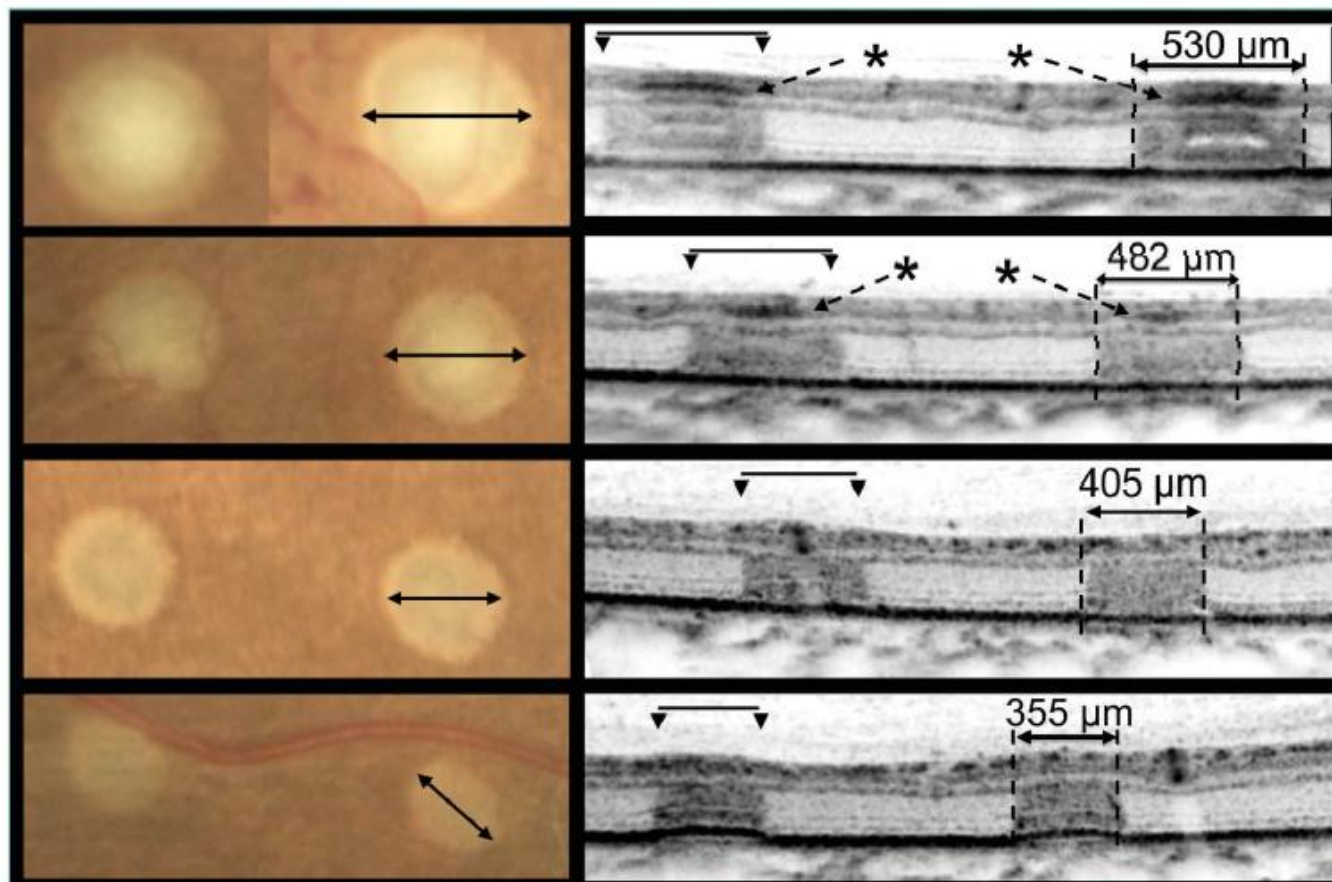
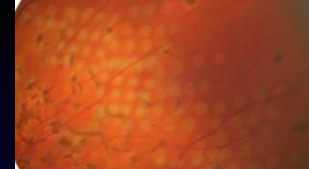
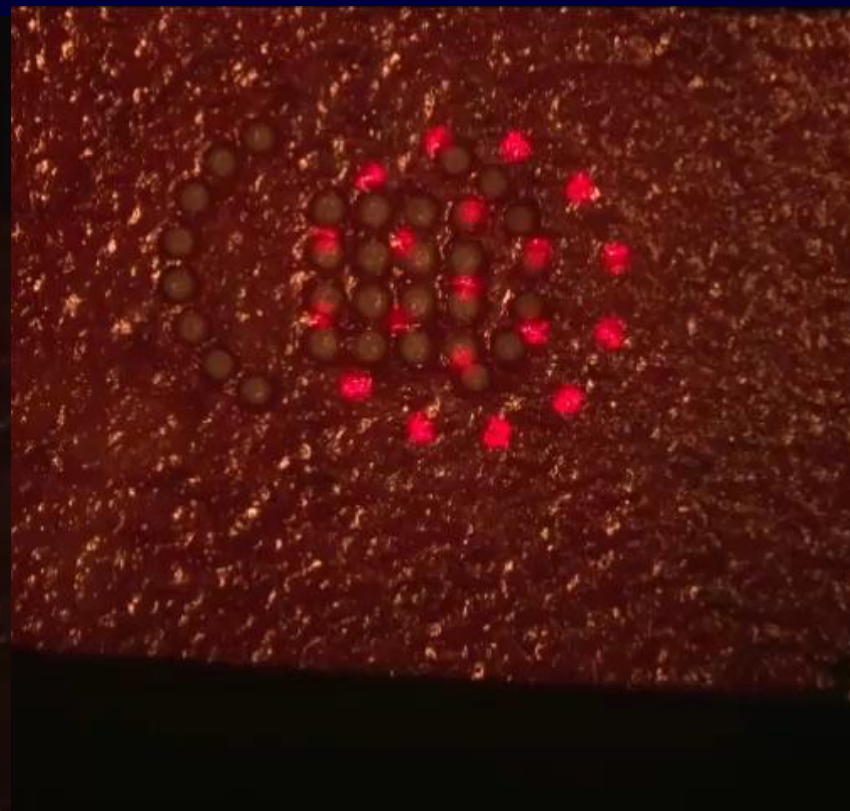
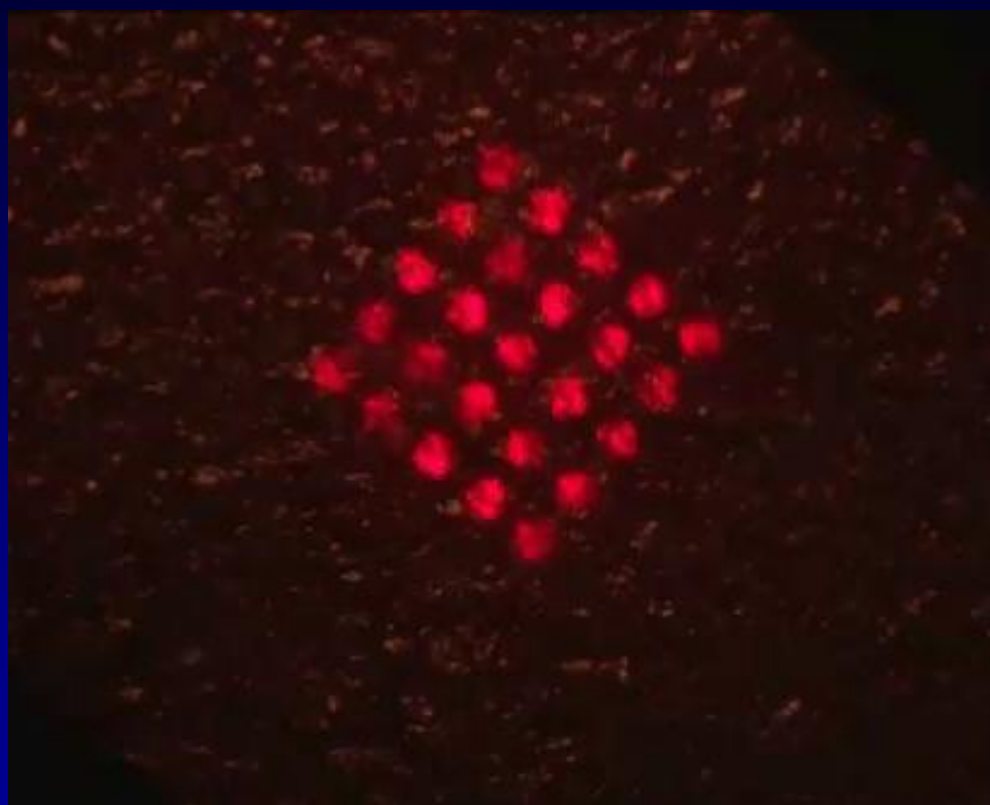
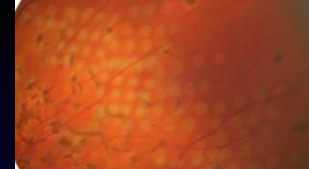
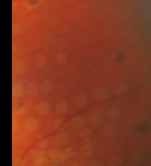


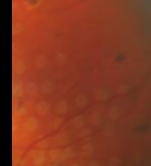
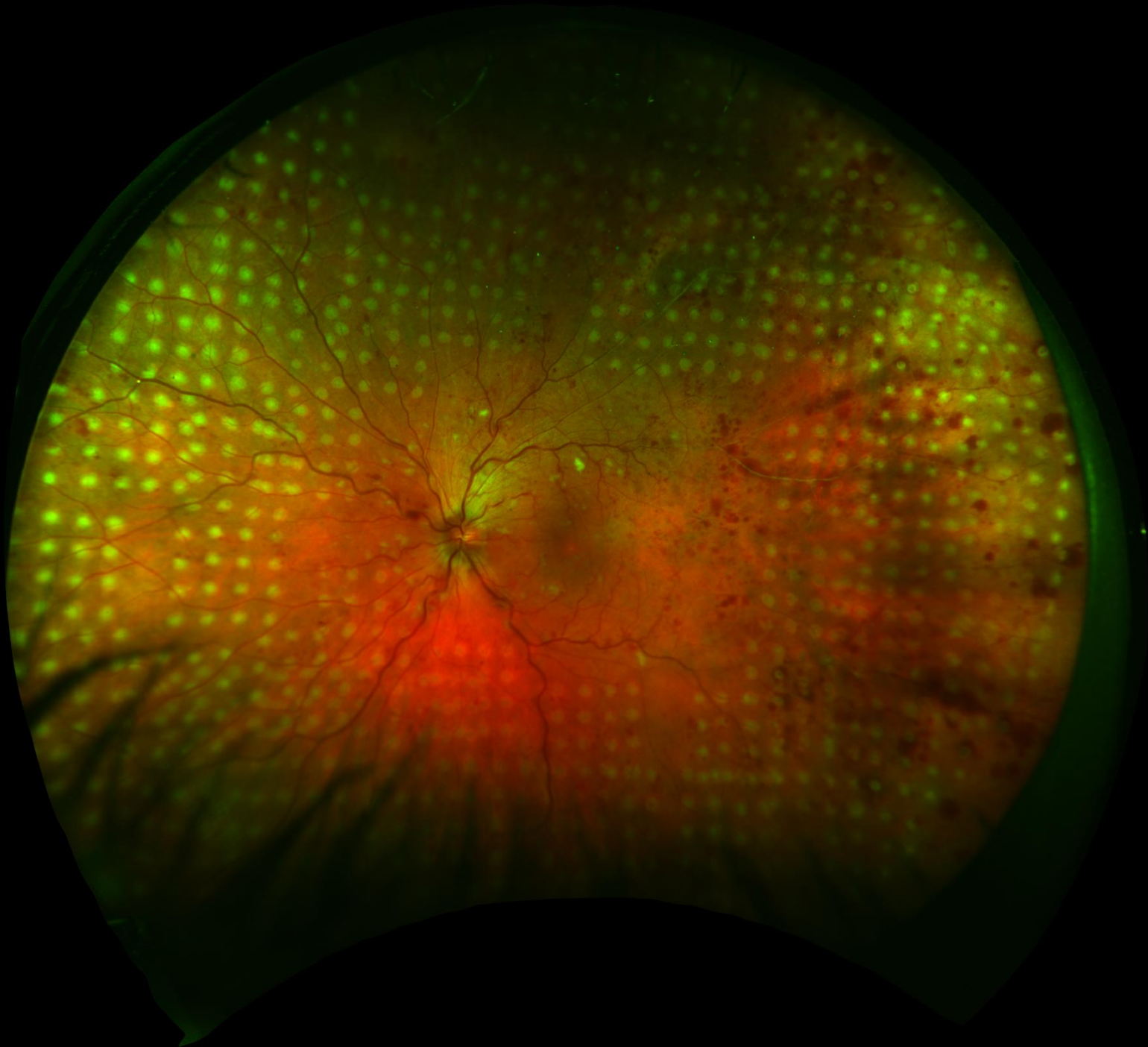
Fig. 1. Typical OCT appearance of the acute retinal lesions produced with a 400- μm aerial beam size using Area Centralis contact lens. Solid arrows show the width of the coagulated zone, with numbers in micrometers. A. 100 ms, moderate grade. Dash arrows (*) point at the dark bands indicating some effect in the inner retina. B. 20 ms, moderate grade. C. 20 ms, light grade. D. 20 ms, barely visible grade.

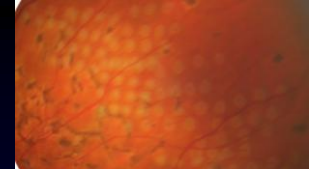


Scanning Patterns

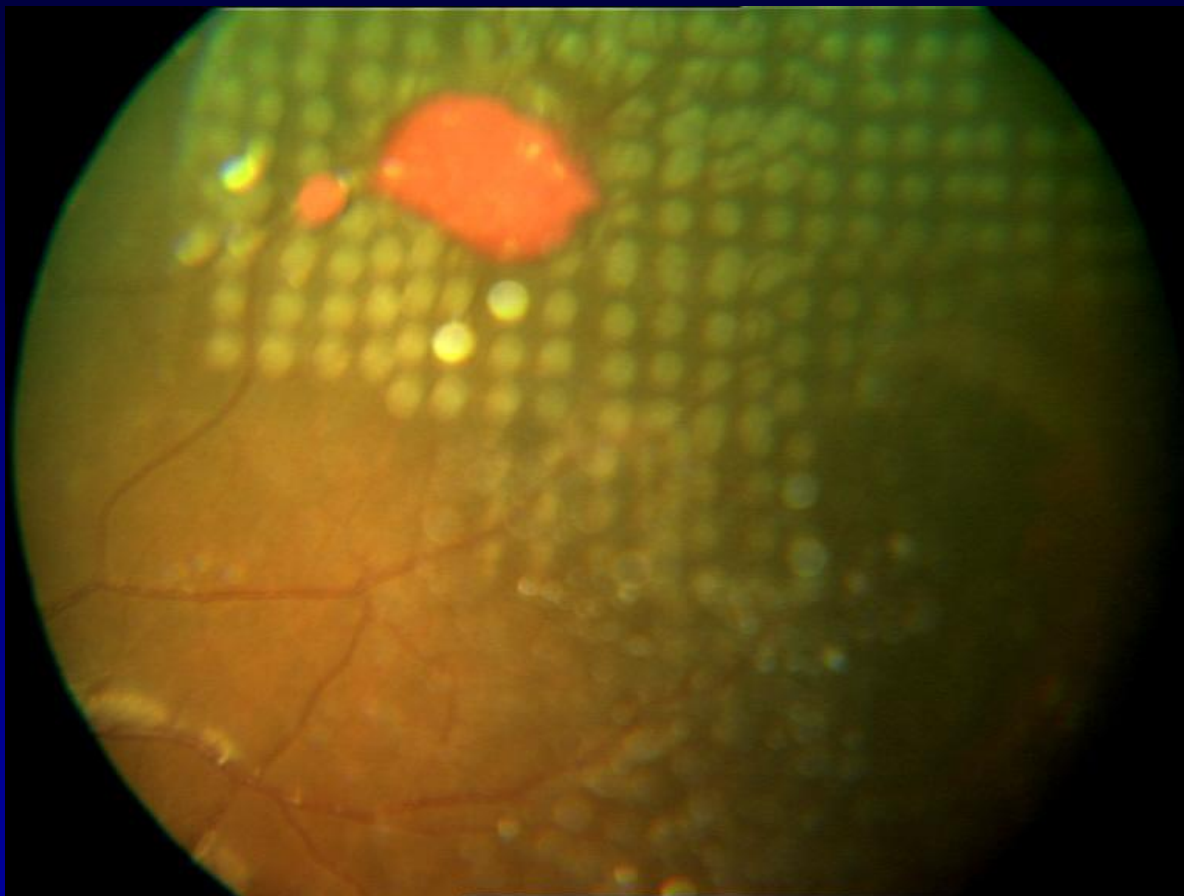






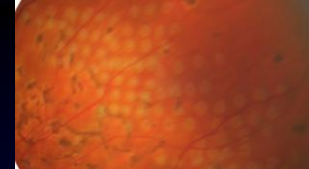


Example PRP for NV and VH



PRP in Sickle
Cell Disease

Pattern 4x4,
Settings:
20 msec,
275 mW,
400 microns

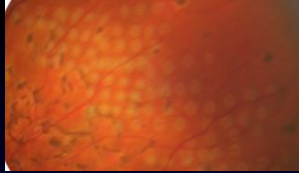


Example Macular Grid



Upper half
Long pulse
duration,
single shot

Lower half
Short pulse
duration
(10msec),
pattern photo-
coagulation
200mW



Example Retinal Tear



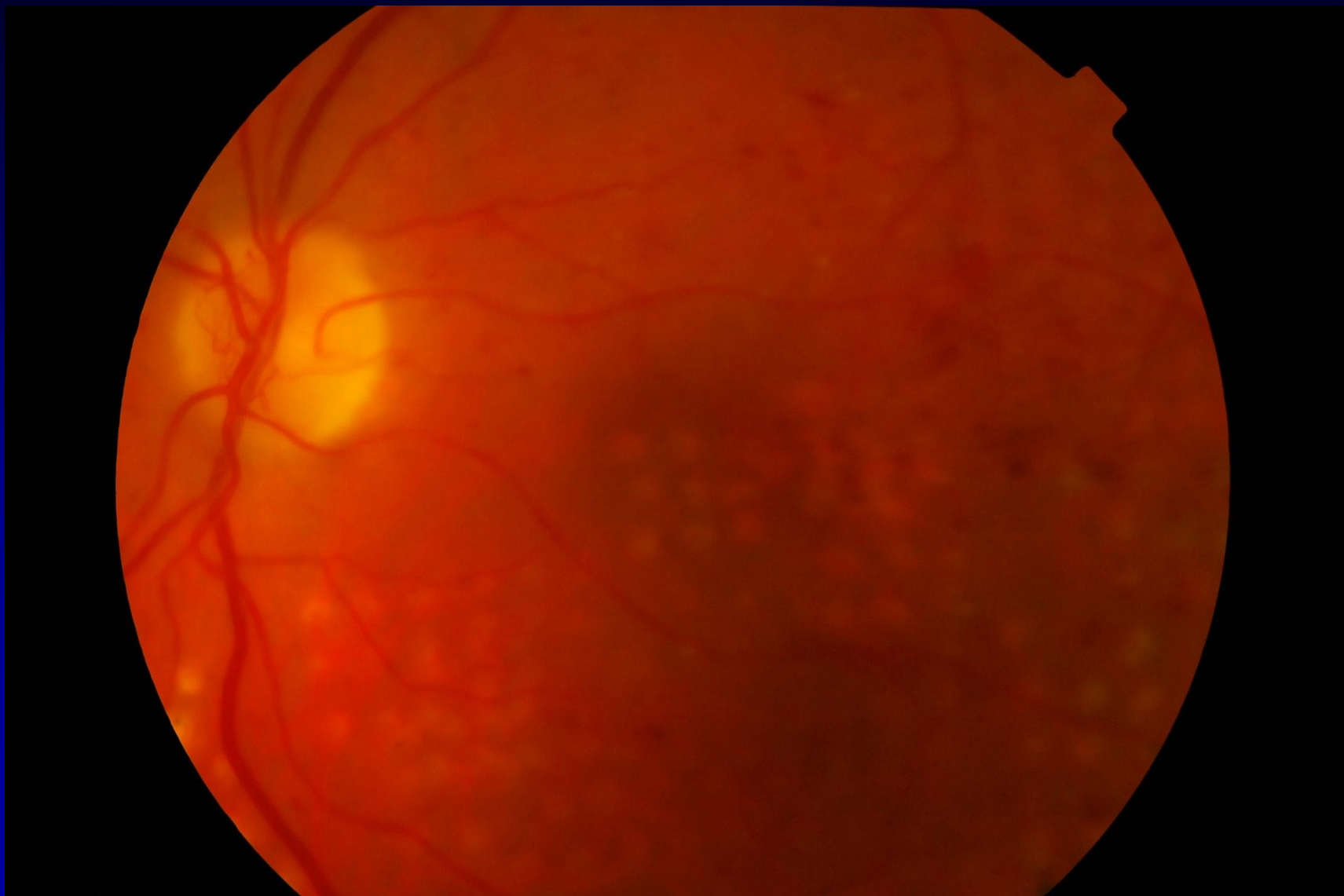
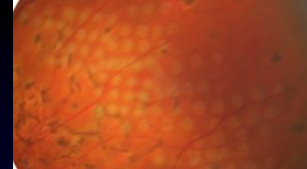
Pattern 3x3
and arc

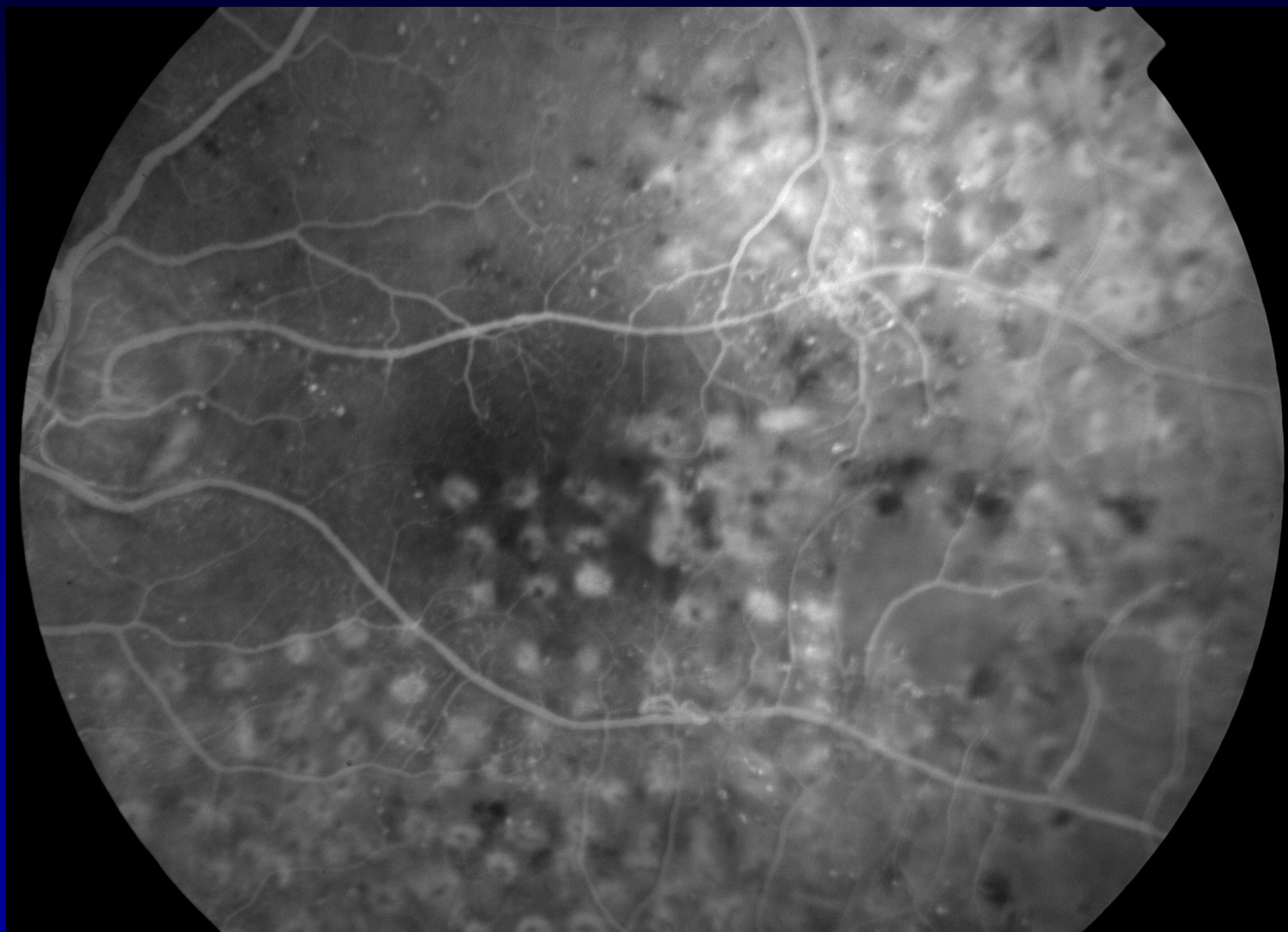
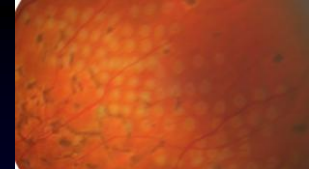
Settings:
20 msec,
450 mW,
400 microns

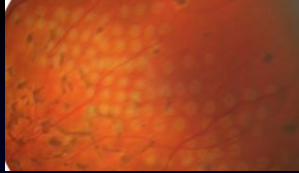


CAUTION

**THIS MACHINE
HAS NO BRAIN
USE YOUR OWN**







The newer lasers

- Navilas – Automated delivery
- Micropulse
- YLF/Selective Retinal Therapy
- 2RT

The Navigated Retina Laser

All-digital | More effective | More comfortable





Navilas® Laser System

All-digital retinal laser therapy

Navilas® is the first all-digital system for navigated focal and peripheral laser treatments.

The key elements of laser therapy are effectively integrated into one smart solution.



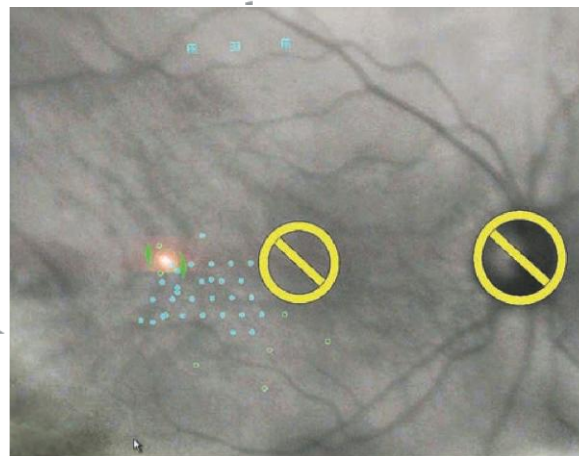
Structured treatment workflow

Navilas® uniquely provides retinal specialists with an all-digital treatment workflow, enabling precise, comprehensive care and bringing back confidence in laser therapy.

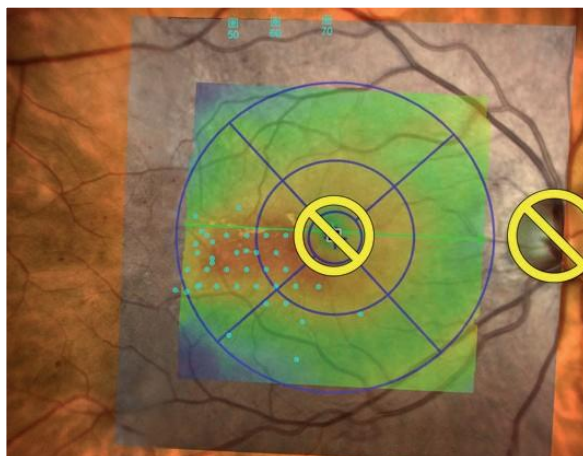
Digital
Fundus
imaging



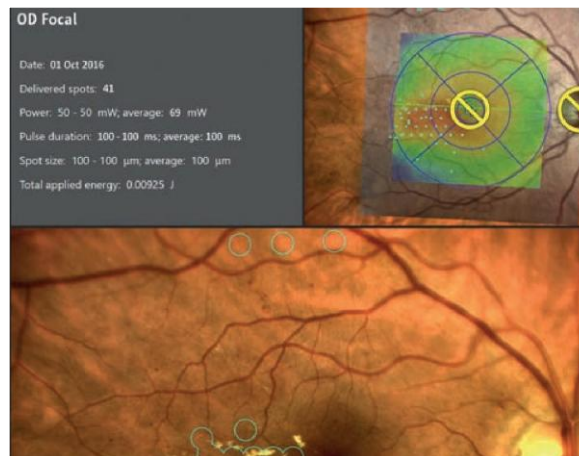
Target-assisted
Laser Treatment



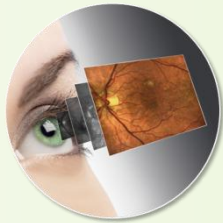
Digital
Treatment
Planning



Digital
Treatment
Report



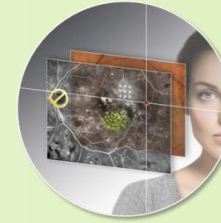
Navigated Macular Laser Treatment



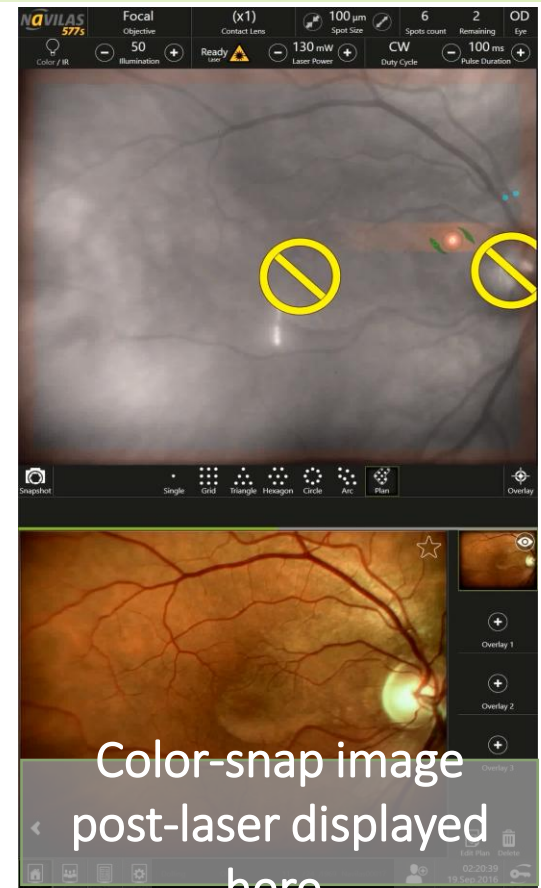
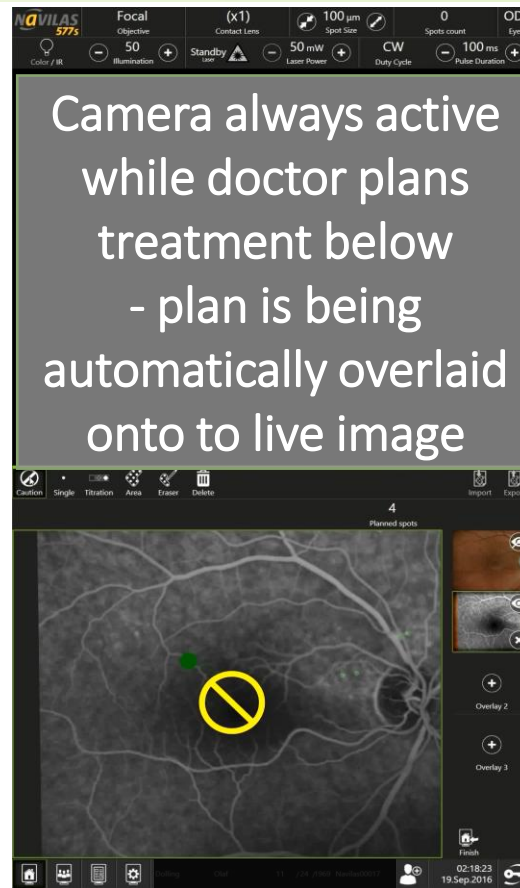
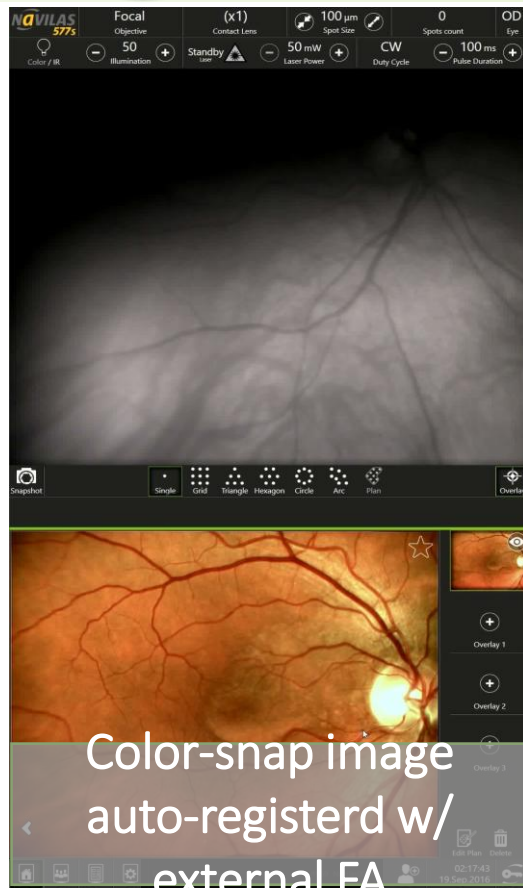
Image



Plan



Treat



Navigated Treatment Navilas 577+

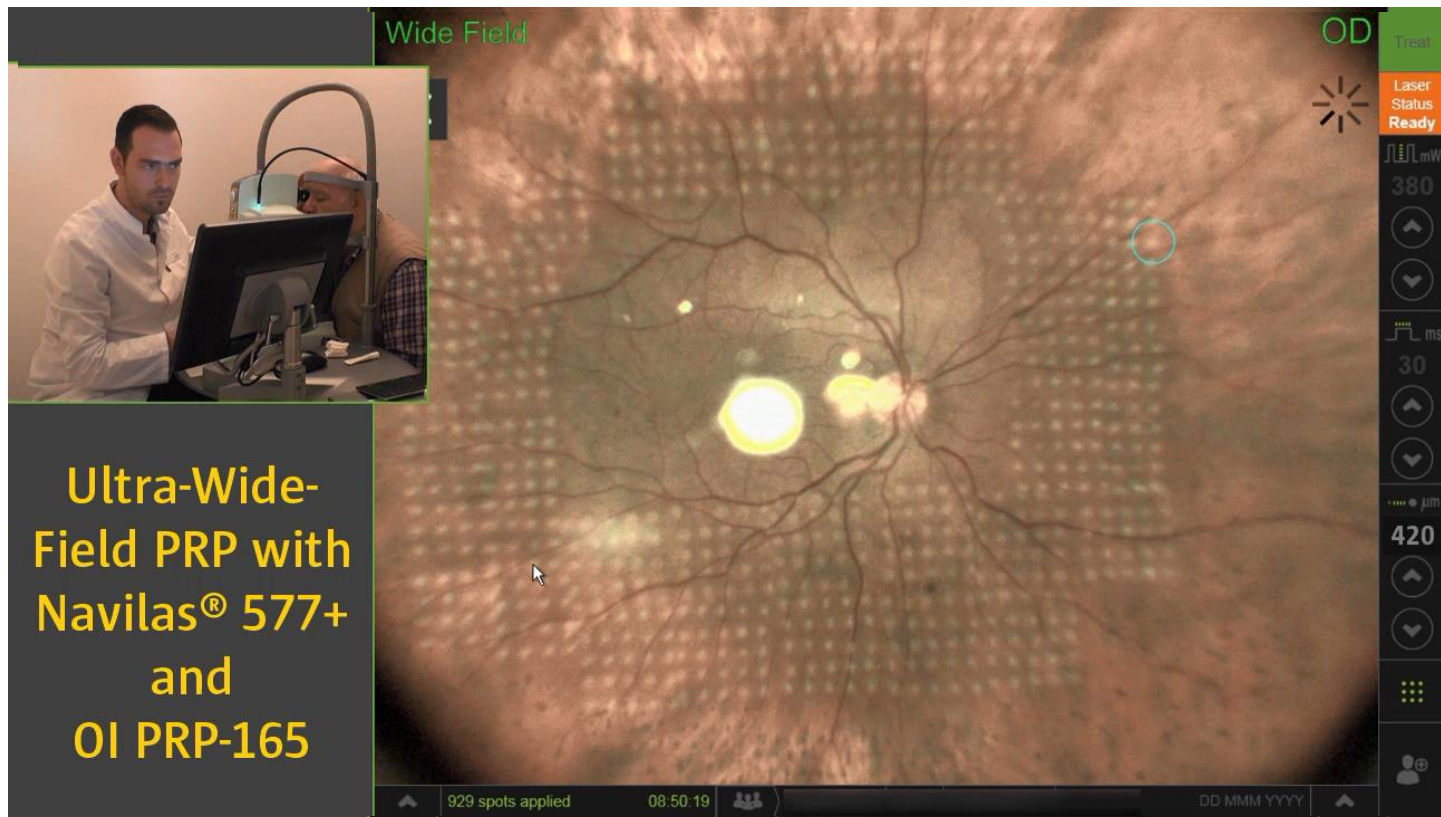
Leaking MA in Macular Edema



(W. Lloyd Clark MD, Columbia SC)

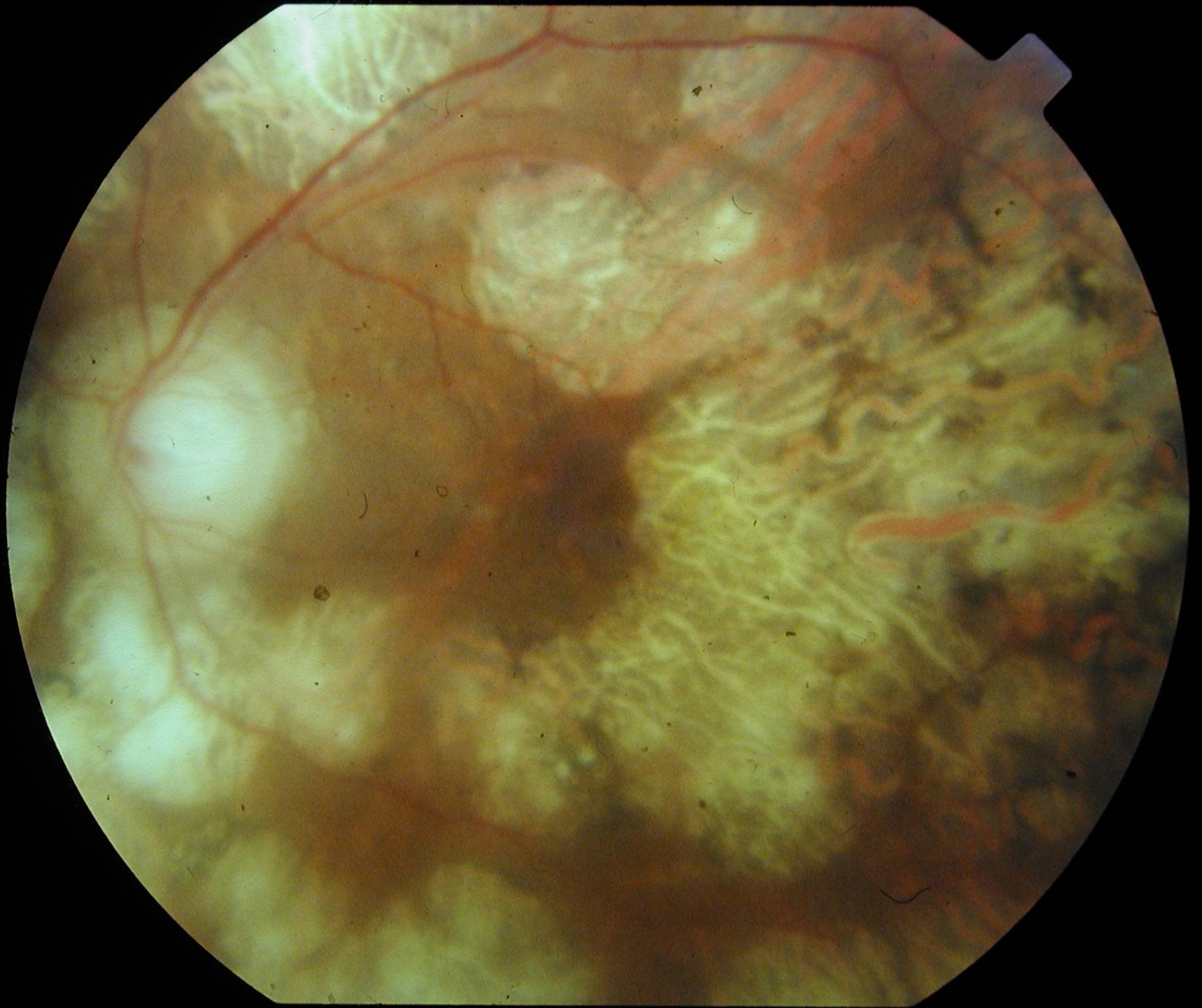
Faster treatment with better patient comfort

- Fast patterns with 10-30 ms pulses
- Navigated patterns
- Wide static field-of-view



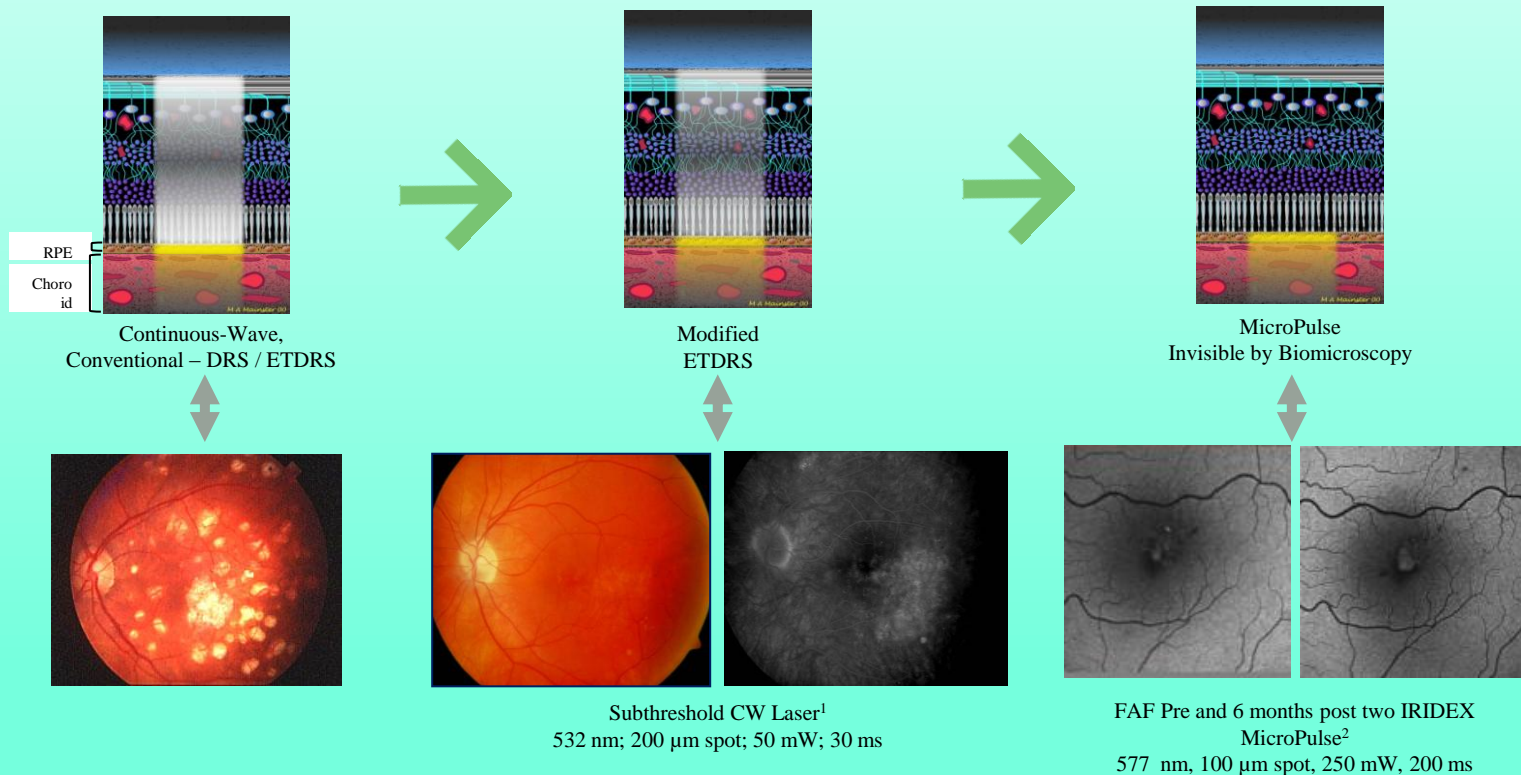


Micropulse Diode Laser





Subthreshold Photocoagulation - Micropulse

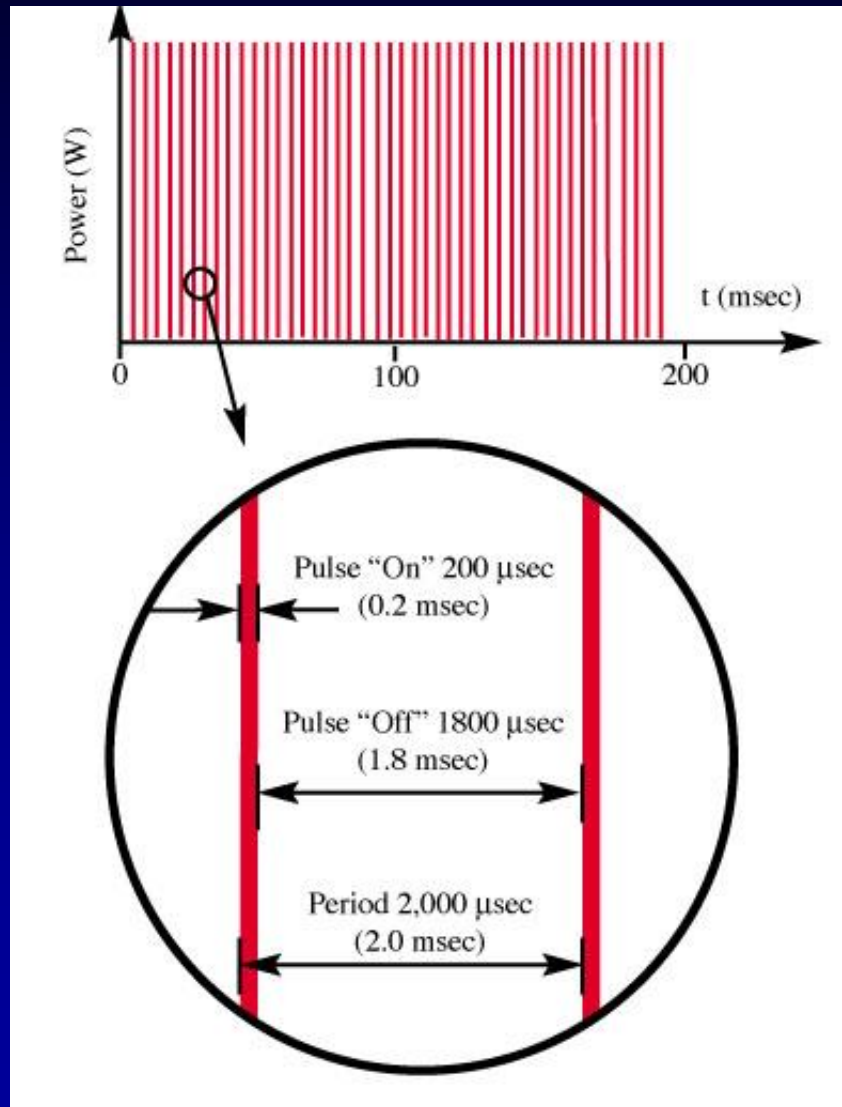


1. Compliments of Sam Mansour, MD, Warrington, VA
2. Vujosevic, et al Retina 2015

Illustrations compliments of Martin A. Mainster, PhD., MD, FRCOphth



Micropulse laser





Duty Cycle



Pulse width = **100 microseconds**

Interval width = **1,900 microseconds**

Total time = **2,000 microseconds**

Duty cycle is : $\frac{100}{2,000} \times 100 = 5\%$



Selective Retinal Therapy

- 30 laser pulses
- Nd:YLF-Laser
 - 527 nm
 - **1.7 microsec**
 - 100 Hz
- 450-800 mJ/cm(2) per pulse

Neodymium Yttrium Lithium Fluoride (Nd:Y



(527nm)

2 μ s

100Hz

200 μ m

30 pulses

MEDIZINISCHES LASERZENTRUM LÜBECK
SpF Laser Selective RPE Treatment

2RT

Wavelength
532nm

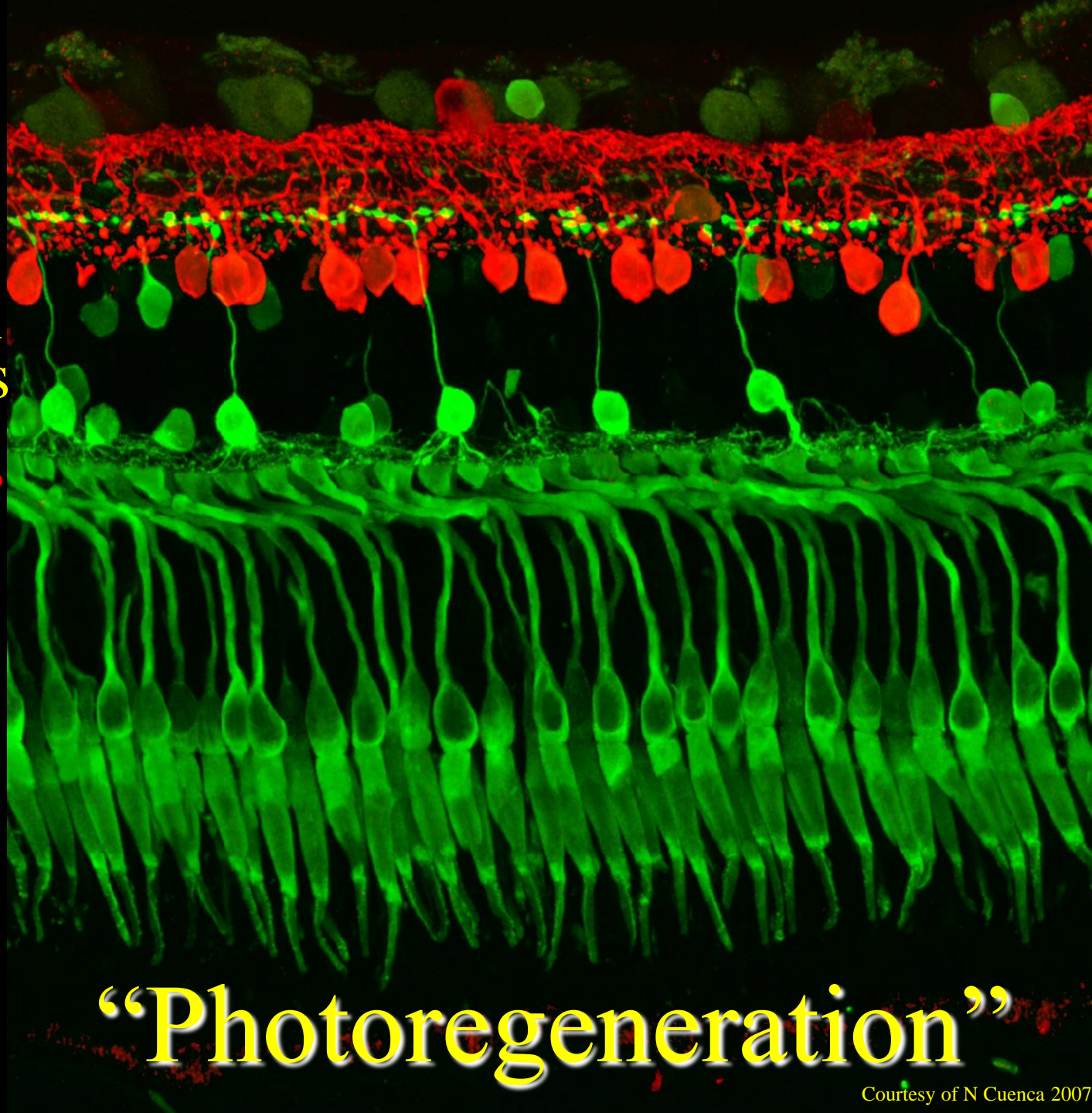
Pulse duration
3 nanoseconds

Discontinuous
Beam
Distribution

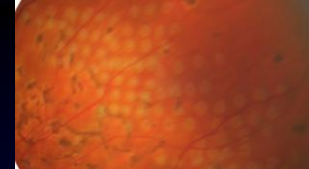
Max energy
1mJ/pulse

Spot size
400 microns

Not
SLT Laser

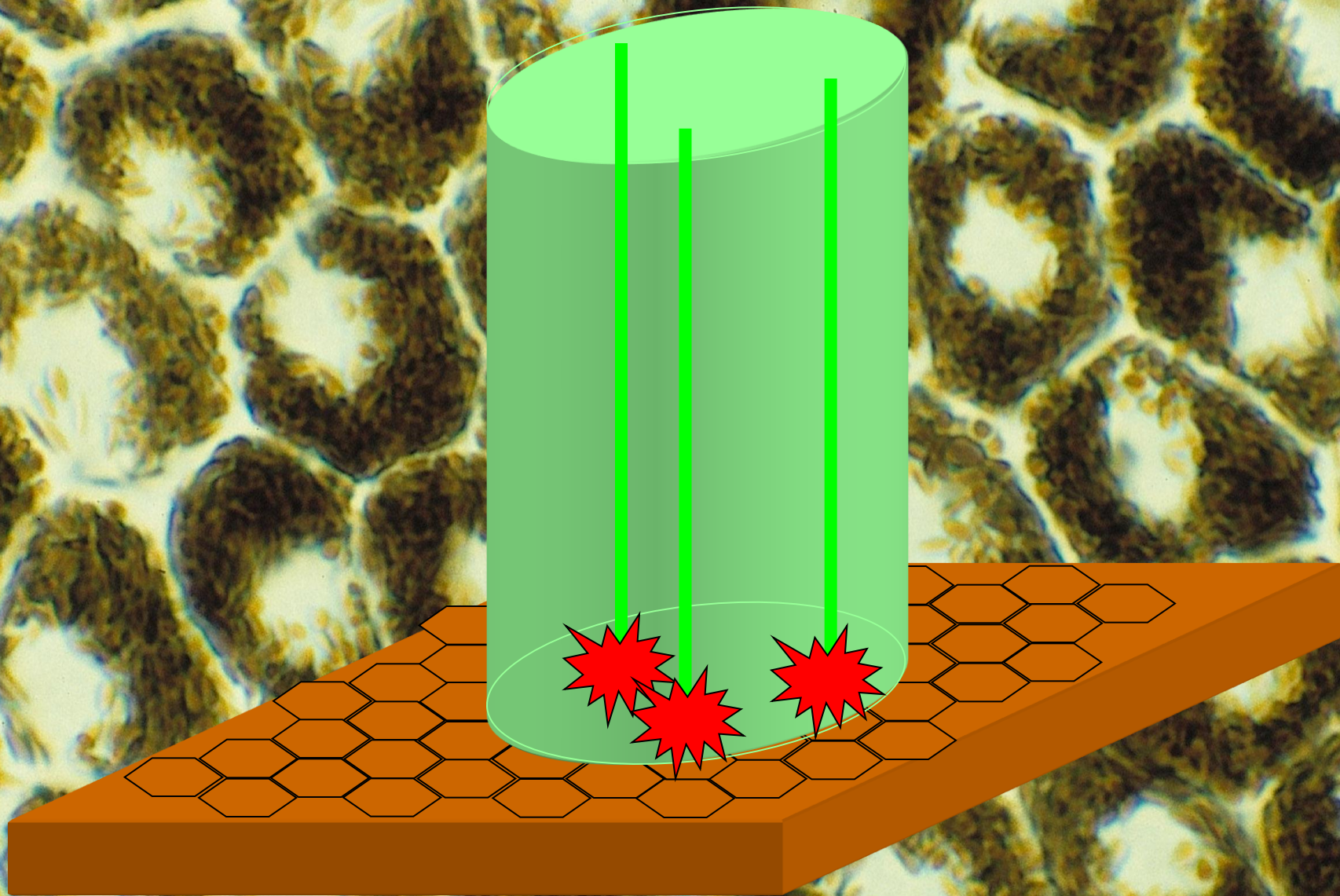


“Photoregeneration”

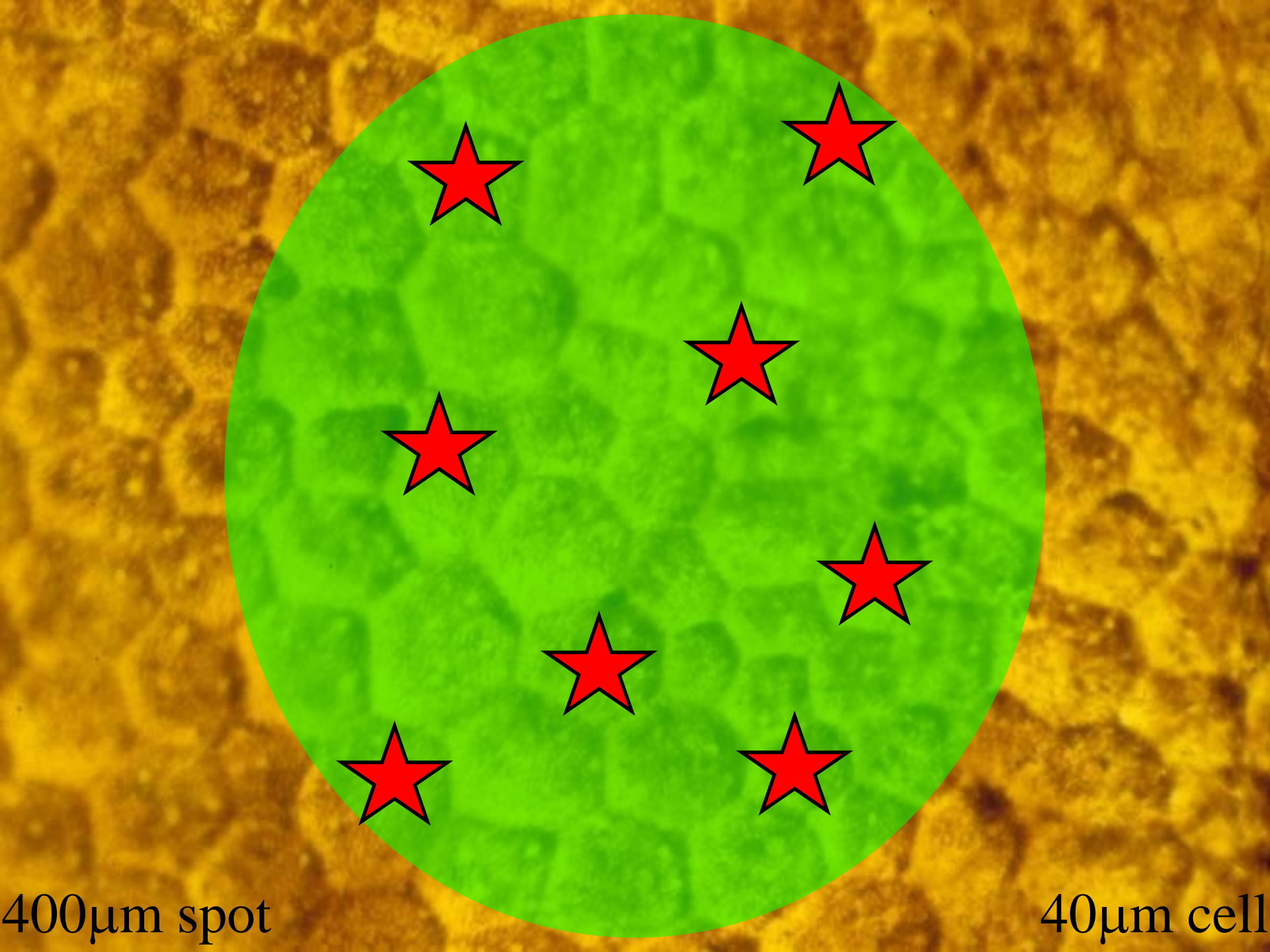


Ellex 2RT treatment parameters compared to standard macular photocoagulation.

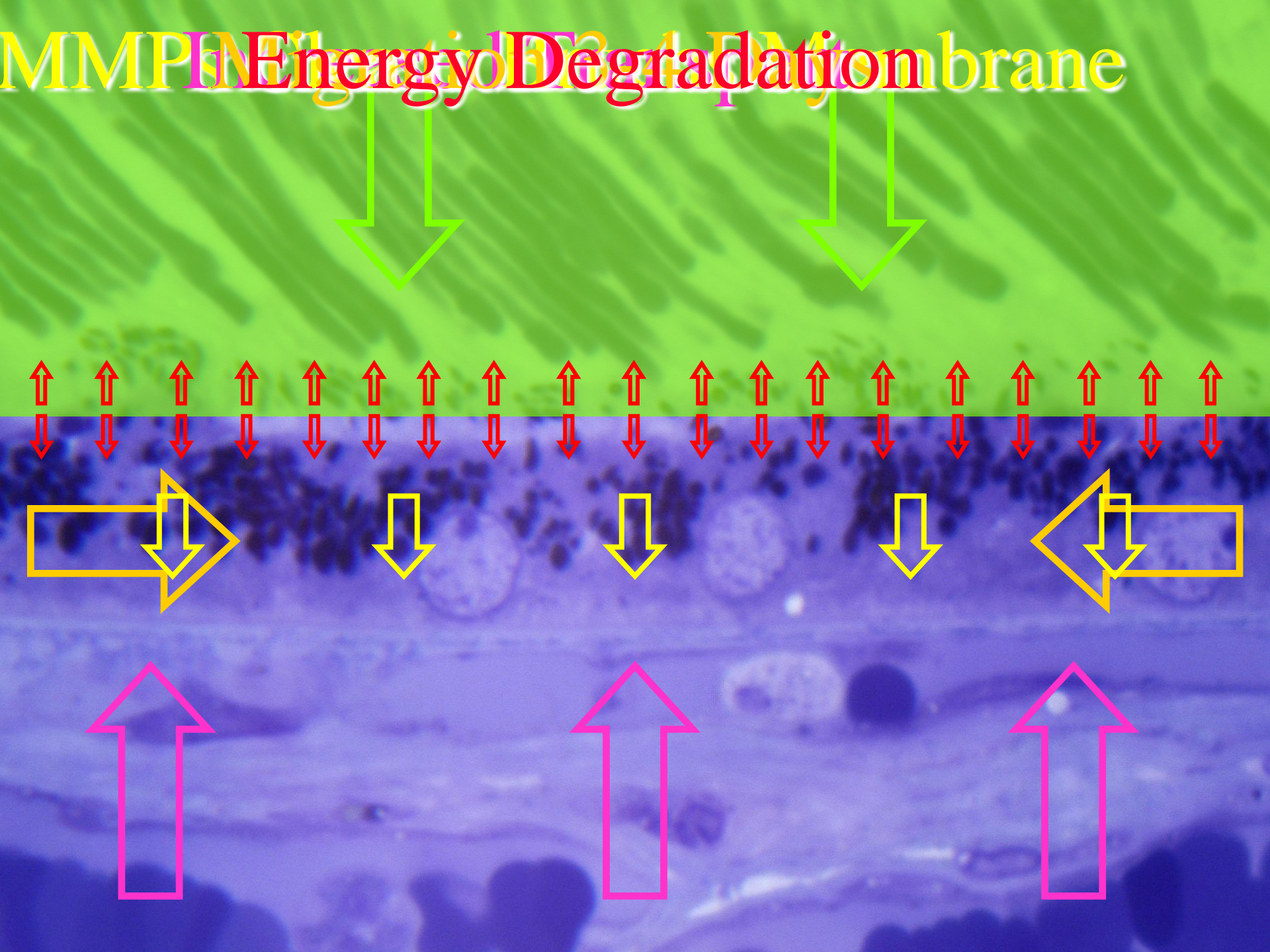
	Ellex 2RT	Photocoagulation
Pulse Duration	3 nanoseconds	0.1 seconds
Fluence	0.2J/cm ²	160J/cm ²
Spot Size	400 microns	100 microns
Wavelength	532nm (green)	532nm (green)
Tissue Interaction	Intra-cellular Micro-bubble Formation	Thermal Coagulation



2RT Selective (Beam)

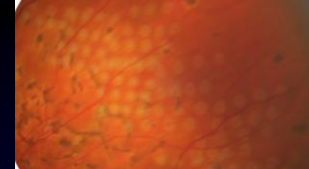


MMPs Energy Degradation Membrane

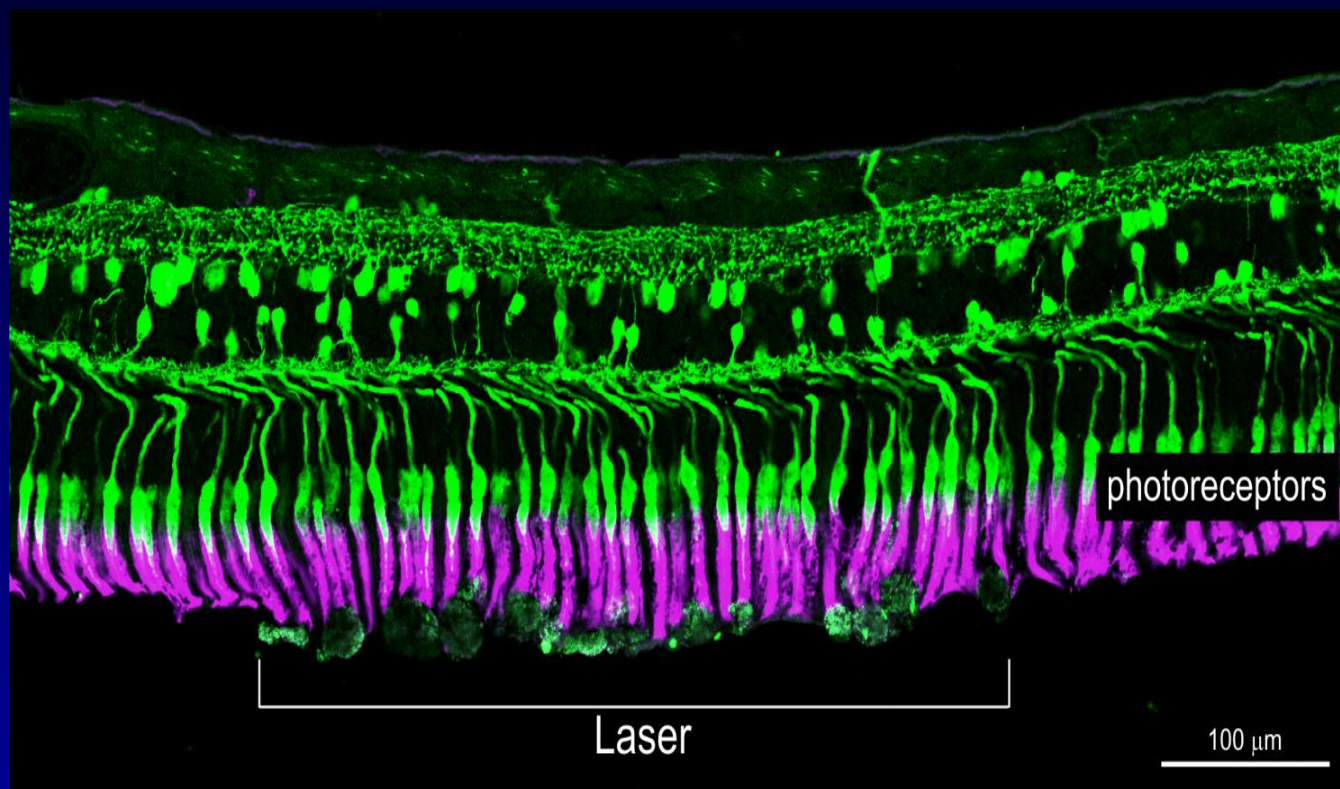




Clinical: 1/52 Post 2RT live human Histology



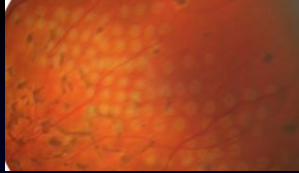
- 2RT Applied at 0.3 mJ
- Photoreceptor layer preserved
- Evidence of mononuclear cells at distal regions of the outer segments of the photoreceptors



RPE
Removed

(1) Jobling et al. FASEB J. 29(2), 696-710

(2015)
Source: Prof Erica Fletcher (University of Melbourne)



Summary

- New treatment technologies
- Treat without causing harm
- Maintain macular and retinal anatomy
- Alter physiology only
- Nanosecond lasers
- Automated delivery of lasers
- Future.....



Thank You

