Title: Promoting patient safety in Ophthalmology

Introduction: The increase in demand for ophthalmic treatment in Spain, secondary to the advent of new medications, better surgical results, and an ageing population, might increase the incidence of medical errors, specifically those associated with high-volume procedures, like cataract surgery and intravitreal injection.

Objective: To develop a patient safety program in a tertiary-care Ophthalmology service in Spain. To promote a safety culture among Spanish ophthalmologists.

Methods: A list of sentinel events (critical incidents) tailored for ophthalmology will be created, through discussion with the different members of the team. Educational sessions will be held in order to promote patient safety between all the different participants in the team (doctors, nursing staff, optometrists), and to teach the practical aspects of critical incident reporting and root-case analysis. We will survey doctors in order to develop a specific time-out checklist for ophthalmology, which could reduce the incidence of the most common errors (implanting wrong lenses, or injecting wrong intravitreal medications). We also plan to survey both doctors and patients on communication preferences when errors do occur. We plan to present our findings in national and European congresses, and to publish patient safety guidelines in our national Ophthalmology Journal.