

# European Society of Ophthalmology



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**European Leadership Development Programme, Class of 2025-2027**

## **Project Abstract**

**Title of Project:** Ophthalmologists' Postoperative practices in cataract surgery: the OPTIC European survey

**Purpose:** The aim of the OPTIC Survey is to comprehensively characterize postoperative management practices following adult cataract surgery across Europe. Given the substantial variability in postoperative prescriptions among surgeons, institutions, and regions, this study seeks to map current use of topical and dropless prophylactic regimens, including steroids, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs, antibiotics, and lubricants, as well as to assess how these regimens are adapted in higher-risk clinical scenarios. Ultimately, the findings will help identify patterns of consensus and divergence, highlight barriers influencing prescribing behavior, and support future efforts toward harmonizing postoperative care guidelines.

**Methods:** The OPTIC Survey is an international, anonymous, survey targeting non-resident ophthalmic surgeons performing adult cataract surgery across Europe. Participants complete a structured online questionnaire (~10 minutes) covering demographics, intraoperative antimicrobial prophylaxis, postoperative medical regimens for uncomplicated surgery, modifications for higher-risk conditions, and factors influencing prescribing decisions. Eligibility is confirmed via screening questions, and no personal identifiers are collected to ensure confidentiality. Responses are recorded using a combination of single-choice, multiple-choice, grid-matrix, and short-answer formats. Data will be analyzed descriptively to characterize prevailing practices and explore variability across countries, practice settings, and surgeon experience. Participation is voluntary and may be discontinued at any point.