Preface to Position of OPS on Performing Venipuncture and Intravenous Injections

Well into the third decade of this controversial issue, the legality of photographers doing venipuncture and injections of fluorescein and ICG dyes is again a provocative topic amongst our members.

This subject has been addressed in OPS educational programs, publicly discussed at business meetings, and published in our Journal of Ophthalmic Photography. Last February, your Board of Directors again considered this issue at its winter meeting in San Francisco. Following consultation with our lawyers and respected members of the profession, the following statement was adopted by the BOD as the official OPS policy:

**OPS POSITION ON PERFORMING VENIPUNCTURE AND INTRAVENOUS INJECTIONS**

The OPS wishes to make its members aware that the OPS has no legal authority to determine who may perform venipuncture or intravenous injections. The current position of the OPS, taken through its Board of Directors, is that the OPS neither advocates nor opposes venipuncture or the administration of intravenous injections, such as dyes, by photographers.

The OPS also wishes to inform its members that:

- OPS is unaware of any federal laws which address who may perform venipuncture or intravenous injections; and
- the scope of practice of medical professionals has been established traditionally on the state level, meaning the states determine the activities each medical specialty is allowed to perform under their state license.

Accordingly, OPS recommends that each individual photographer check with the appropriate agency or agencies in the state in which they practice to determine whether the performance of venipuncture or the administration of intravenous injections fall within their scope of practice.

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