IRIS RETRACTOR*†

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THIS instrument is designed for easy and safe retraction of the iris during cataract extraction so that a cryo-surgical probe may be applied below the superior pole of the lens. It is made of stainless steel which allows simple sterilization by boiling or autoclaving. (Figure).

FIGURE.—Instrument seen from the side and from above. $\times 2$.

During cataract extraction, the tip of the instrument is slipped through the pupil and the iris is lifted gently upwards to reveal the superior pole of the lens. The cryo-surgical probe is then applied to the anterior capsule midway between its centre and the superior pole; easing the probe forwards ruptures the upper zonular fibres, and rotation from side to side about an arc centered on the inferior limbus then ruptures the zonule on either side of the lens. This technique has been found not to require counterpressure or traction from below and offers the great advantage that a direct view of the lens is obtained during rupture of the zonule.

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