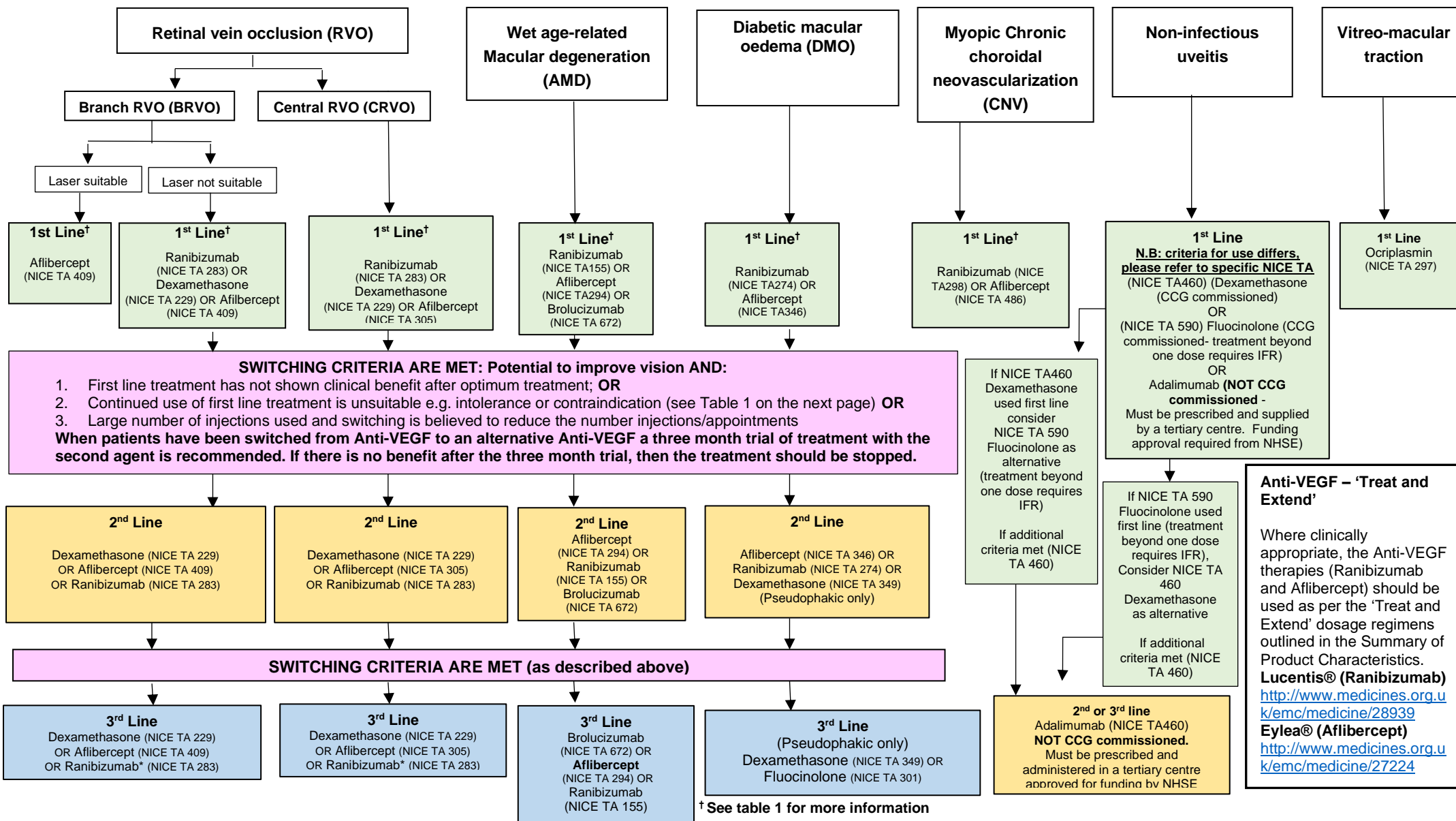


## INTRAVITREAL INJECTIONS USED IN OPHTHALMOLOGY ALGORITHM



<b>Table 1: Contraindications to steroid and anti-VEGF intravitreal injections</b>		
NB: This list is not exhaustive - Consult the BNF and Summary of Product Characteristics for more information		
<b>Contraindication</b>	<b>STEROID</b>	<b>ANTI-VEGF</b>
<b>The following ABSOLUTE contraindications apply for both Steroid and Anti-VEGF</b>		
Active or suspected ocular or periocular infection	D/F	A/R/B
Active severe intraocular inflammation	D	A/R/B
Hypersensitivity to the active substance or to any of the excipients	D/F	A/R/B
<b>STEROID (dexamethasone or fluocinolone implants) ABSOLUTE contraindications</b>		
Advanced glaucoma which cannot be controlled by medications alone	D/F	
Aphakic eyes with ruptured posterior lens capsule	D	
Eyes with anterior chamber intraocular lens (ACIOL), iris or transscleral fixated intraocular lens and ruptured posterior lens capsule	D	
Infectious uveitis	F	
<b>STEROID (dexamethasone or fluocinolone implants) RELATIVE contraindications</b>		
Raised intraocular pressure (IOP)/family history of raised IOP	D/F	
Phakic patients (those who have not had cataract surgery and who do not have a cataract)	D/F	
<b>Anti-VEGF (ranibizumab or aflibercept) ABSOLUTE contraindications</b>		
Pregnancy or Breast Feeding		A/R/B
Clinical signs of irreversible ischaemic visual function loss.		A/R/B
<b>Anti-VEGF (ranibizumab or aflibercept or brolucizumab) RELATIVE contraindications</b>		
Patients who cannot or who do not wish to have regular multiple injections.		A/R/B
Patients who have had a myocardial infarction (MI), Transient Ischaemic Attack (TIA) or cardiovascular accident (CVA) in the preceding 6 months.		A/R/B
Females who are of child-bearing age		Effective contraception advised for during treatment at least 3 months after the last dose of treatment.
Active systemic infections		A/R/B
<u>Retinal pigment epithelial tear</u> Risk factors associated with the development of a retinal pigment epithelial tear after anti-VEGF therapy for wet AMD and potentially also other forms of CNV, include a large and/or high pigment epithelial retinal detachment. When initiating therapy, caution should be used in patients with these risk factors for retinal pigment epithelial tears.		A/R/B

<u>Rhegmatogenous retinal detachment or macular holes</u> Treatment should be withheld in subjects with rhegmatogenous retinal detachment or stage 3 or 4 macular holes.		A/R/B
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**BNF – Additional cautions :-**

**Ranibizumab** - diabetic patients with HbA<sub>1c</sub> over 12%; uncontrolled hypertension

**Aflibercept** - diabetic patients with uncontrolled hypertension; poorly controlled glaucoma

**Brolucizumab** - poorly controlled glaucoma

<b>Key:</b>	
<b>Medication</b>	<b>Code</b>
Ranibizumab	R
Aflibercept	A
Dexamethasone	D
Fluocinolone	F
Brolucizumab	B

**Note – All drugs listed in this guideline will require completion of a High Cost Drugs Proforma via Blueteq.**

<b>Abbreviations</b>	
AMD	Age related macular degeneration
DMO	Diabetic macular oedema
RVO	Retinal vein occlusion
BRVO	Branch retinal vein occlusion
CRVO	Central retinal vein occlusion
CNV	Choroidal neovascularisation
CI	Contraindication
MO	Macular oedema
RCO	Royal College of Ophthalmologists

Updated: June 2021

**References: (All accessed February 2020; March 2021 refs 3,4,6,7,and 9 checked)**

1. The Royal College of Ophthalmologists Retinal vein occlusion (RVO) clinical guideline, July 2015. <https://www.rcophth.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/Retinal-Vein-Occlusion-RVO-Guidelines-July-2015.pdf>
2. The Royal College of Ophthalmologists Diabetic retinopathies clinical guideline, 2012, updated July 2013. <https://www.rcophth.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/2013-SCI-301-FINAL-DR-GUIDELINES-DEC-2012-updated-July-2013.pdf>
3. Aflibercept: Eylea 40 mg/ml solution for injection in a vial <https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/medicine/27224>
4. Dexamethasone: OZURDEX 700 micrograms intravitreal implant in applicator SPC: <https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/medicine/23422>
5. Fluocinolone acetonide: ILUVIEN 190 micrograms intravitreal implant in applicator SPC: <https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/medicine/27636>

6. Ranibizumab: Lucentis® 10 mg/ml solution for injection SPC:  
<https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/medicine/19409>
7. eBNF <https://bnf.nice.org.uk/>
8. Age-related macular degeneration, NICE guideline [NG82] Published date: January 2018, <https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng82>
9. Brolucizumab: Beovu® 120mg/ml solution in pre-filled syringe or 120mg/ml solution for injection, <https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/product/11145>