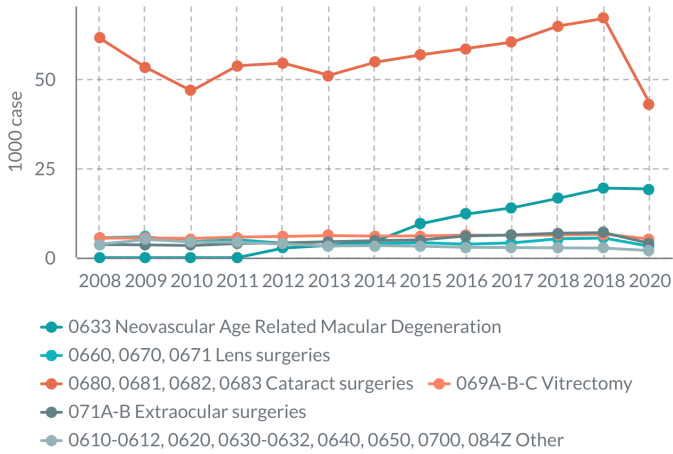


# Challenges and solutions in the financing of ophthalmology - based on international good practices in Hungary

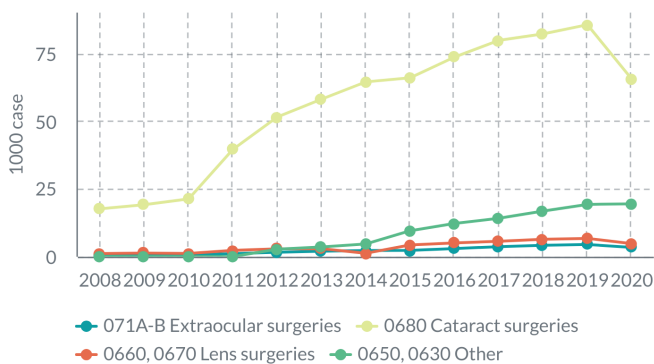
## Trends in Provision

From 2010, a continuous rise in the number of ophthalmic surgeries can be observed, in the case of the number of AMD surgeries from 2014. A break, a drop of 15-20%, was caused by the closure of institutions during the years of the COVID-19 epidemic.

In-patient care surgeries in ophthalmology 2008-2020



One-day surgeries in ophthalmology 2008-2020



## Main Results



**Cataract surgery - Waiting List Reduction Program by NHIF:** between 2015 and 2018, a total of 10 thousand cataract surgeries were performed within the framework of additional funding provided to healthcare institutions. As a result the waiting list was shortened to 6-8 weeks for the period before the COVID-19 pandemic.



**Improvement in AMD treatments:** The intravitreal injection procedure was introduced in the publicly funded health insurance system in 2012. The number increased from 2.6 thousand to 19.4 thousand by 2019 (it fell slightly during the COVID-19 pandemic) opened a new therapeutic option for patients suffering from age-related macular degeneration.



**Glaucoma medical care:** eye drops are widely available with a 90% subsidy on prescription from a specialist (main active ingredients are: latanoprost, brinzolamide, dorzolamide, timolo, travoprost). In pharmacies, the supply of eye drops is stable and extensive: 1.2 million boxes of products are sold annually, which use has not decreased even during the COVID-19 pandemic.



## Challenges and Answers based on the good practices of the financing of ophthalmic care revealed and organized in the V4 Fund international project

Innovation: new devices, new therapies



Regular code refinement and development, moreover valorized financing tariffs in order to timely access to modern ophthalmic procedures and new products.

Ageing society  
Increasing need and demand on AMD és DME treatments



Preparing health needs analyses for Glaucoma, AMD (age-related macular degeneration) and DME (diabetic macula oedema). Development of screening and early detection systems at primary care and outpatient care level. Polish and Czech funding good examples in AMD treatment: use of biological therapies, quality (outcome) aspects.

Patient Pathway Management - High level of coordination between different levels of care



Consistent enforcement of the principle of progressive care. Greater inclusion of primary health care. Additionally, strengthening the role of ophthalmic ambulatory services. Consideration of Slovakian bundled financing and itemized artificial lens tariffs in the Hungarian public financing system.

Quality control and Quality Improvement Indicator development



Studying and application of the quality indicators used in public financing in Poland. Protocol development: OCT eye examinations, measurements before and after eye surgeries. Feedback of analyses and evaluations of indicators to service providers.