CLAIMS

1. A system for placing a shunt into an eye, comprising:

a syringe barrel comprising a proximal end and a distal end;

a floating seal in the syringe barrel;

a needle base proximal to the floating seal, wherein the floating seal and the needle base elastically engage each other;

a needle for insertion into the eye, the needle comprising:

(i) a needle proximal end engaging the needle base;

(ii) a needle distal end;

(iii) a needle distal opening;

(iv) a needle body opening between the needle proximal end and the needle distal end, wherein the needle body opening is proximal to the needle distal opening; and

(v) a needle body passageway connecting the needle distal opening and the needle body opening,

wherein the needle base is configured to advance the needle distally toward and/or through the floating seal; and

the shunt configured to releasably couple to the needle.

2. The system of claim 1, wherein the shunt is an intraocular shunt within the needle and/or the shunt forms a sleeve around the needle, optionally wherein the shunt comprises a solid structure, a porous structure, a multi-layer composite structure, a membrane stent structure, or any combination thereof.

3. The system of claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the shunt comprises one or more annular rings on a sidewall of the shunt, optionally wherein the shunt comprises a marker ring and a retention ring on the sidewall of the shunt.

4. The system of any of claims 1-3, wherein the shunt comprises multiple channels each extending from one end of the shunt to the other end.

5. The system of any of claims 1-4, wherein an inflow end of the shunt is positioned in the anterior chamber of the eye, and wherein an outflow end of the shunt is positioned in a target outflow region.

6. The system of claim 5, wherein the target outflow region is an expanded space in the eye, and/or wherein the target outflow region is between the sclera and the choroid/ciliary body.

7. The system of claim 6, wherein the target outflow region is a suprachoroidal space.

8. The system of claim 5, wherein the target outflow region is between the conjunctiva and the sclera.

9. The system of claim 8, wherein the target outflow region is a subconjunctival bleb in a subconjunctival space.

10. The system of any of claims 1-9, further comprising a guidewire, wherein the guidewire pushes the shunt in/around the needle distally.

11. The system of any of claims 1-10, further comprising a shunt body outflow port, wherein the shunt body outflow port is located between the inflow end of the shunt and the outflow end of the shunt, optionally wherein the shunt body outflow port is positioned subconjunctival.

12. The system of any of claims 1-11, for use in a method for placing the shunt into the eye, the method comprising:

(a) inserting the needle into the eye to form a delivery passageway in the eye, wherein the delivery passageway ends in a target outflow region in the eye;

(b) delivering a flowable composition through the needle to form an expanded space in the target outflow region;

(c) positioning an inflow end of the shunt in the anterior chamber of the eye and an outflow end of the shunt in the expanded space, wherein the shunt is releasably coupled to the needle; and

(d) releasing the needle from the shunt,

thereby placing the shunt in the eye to provide fluid communication between the anterior chamber and the target outflow region.

13. The system of any of claims 1-11, for use in a method for placing the shunt into the eye, comprising:

(a) inserting the needle into the eye to form a delivery passageway in the eye, wherein the delivery passageway ends between the sclera and the choroid/ciliary body of the eye;

(b) delivering a flowable composition through the needle to form a suprachoroidal space;

(c) piercing the anterior chamber angle of the eye with a distal end of the needle and/or the shunt releasably coupled thereto;

(d) positioning the shunt through the anterior chamber angle such that an inflow end of the shunt is in the anterior chamber and an outflow end of the shunt is in the suprachoroidal space; and

(e) removing the needle from the eye,

thereby placing the shunt in the eye to provide fluid communication between the anterior chamber and the suprachoroidal space.

14. The system of any of claims 1-11, for use in a method for placing the shunt into the eye, comprising:

(a) inserting the needle into the eye to form a delivery passageway in the eye, wherein the delivery passageway ends between the sclera and the choroid/ciliary body of the eye;

(b) delivering a flowable composition through the needle to form a suprachoroidal space;

(c) using the needle to position an outflow end of the shunt in the suprachoroidal space and away from the anterior chamber angle;

(d) piercing the anterior chamber angle of the eye to form an implant passageway; and

(e) positioning an inflow end of the shunt in the anterior chamber through the implant passageway,

thereby placing the shunt in the eye to provide fluid communication between the anterior chamber and the suprachoroidal space.

15. The system of any of claims 1-11, for use in an *ab interno* method for placing the shunt into the eye, comprising:

(a) inserting the needle and/or the shunt releasably coupled thereto through the cornea, across the anterior chamber, and to a suprachoroidal space or a subconjunctival space;

(b) delivering a flowable composition through the needle and/or the shunt into the suprachoroidal space or the subconjunctival space;

(c) positioning an inflow end of the shunt in the anterior chamber and an outflow end of the shunt in the suprachoroidal space or the subconjunctival space; and

(d) removing the needle from the eye,

thereby placing the shunt in the eye to provide fluid communication between the anterior chamber and the suprachoroidal space or the subconjunctival space.