Safety checks before starting laser depigmentation sessions and exclusion criteria:

1. Understanding Driving psychogenic forces and reasons to ask for the eye color lightening.
2. History of trying cosmetic contact lenses and encouraging continuing with them.
3. Complete eye examination to see who could be included and who should be excluded
4. Exclusion criteria:
    a. Age: under 18 yrs.
    b. Family History of glaucoma.
    c. Systemic diseases affecting the eyes. (like diabetes mellitus, rheumatoid arthritis, systemic lupus, etc)
    d. Abnormal corneal with opacities and irregularities and keratoconus (Pentacam check)
    e. Low endothelial cell counts for age (Specular microscopy)
    f. Shallow anterior chamber angles as shown by the pentacam (central depth less than 3mm, convex iris configuration on Schiemflug images).
    g. Abnormal macular changes shown with OCT
    h. Abnormal optic nerve changes and field changes
    i. Heavily pigmented irides (grade 5.5 and more).
    j. Strong desire for bright colors (unrealistic expectations).
    k. Refusal of family and husband or absence of their approval (in some muslim countries or families).

I confirm that it is a safe procedure, based on the follow up data before and after the sessions. Vision, refraction and eye pressure, all are stable. The pentacam, the specular endothelial cell counts, the OCT macular and optic nerve studies after the sessions, are the same like before the sessions. This is over at least one year. But there is some little risk in the future to be a reason for eye pressure elevation. Hence comes the importance of follow-up visits), especially with darkly pigmented eyes and with many sessions. The evidence confirms that the released pigment is being absorbed through the iris vascular system (unconventional uveo-vortex pathway), which takes about 2-3 hours. This explains why the eye pressure stays within normal as being measured. The immune privilege of the eye and the anterior chamber-associated immune deviation, explain why there is no occurrence of inflammatory reactions after the YAG laser iris melanin depigmentation.