



Selective Laser Trabeculoplasty

Glaucoma is a progressive degenerative disease of the optic nerve, and is the leading cause of blindness affecting more than 50 million people worldwide and as many as 3 million in the United States. Controlling the intraocular pressure (IOP) within the eye is one of the main goals in helping to preserve the sight of the involved eye(s). One method has been the use of the argon laser trabeculoplasty (ALT), but it had its limitations. The goal of the ALT was primarily related to the coagulative effect, which leads to scarring of the trabecular meshwork. Therefore, the procedure could only be performed one time.

With the introduction of a newer laser, that limitation has been lifted. Selective Laser Trabeculoplasty (SLT) is based on selective photothermolysis - confining thermally mediated melanin containing cells or trabecular meshwork. The SLT uses short pulses of low energy to stimulate the trabecular meshwork to work more efficiently. This results in increased fluid outflow from the eye, therefore lowering intraocular pressure. When the ALT is performed, it retains the therapeutic benefit of the laser treatment, without damage to the stature of the trabecular meshwork - no scarring. Therefore, the greatest asset of the SLT comes from its ability to be reapplied, if necessary.

Eye Care Associates was the first in the Mahoning Valley to offer this new laser to those patients with glaucoma. Treatment with Lumenis Selecta 7000 laser system involves a 5-minute outpatient procedure performed in the office.

Eye Care Associates, The Center for Advanced Eye Surgery, and the Laser Center for Eye Care are dedicated to total eye care with the latest in advanced technology.

**For more information, please contact our patient advisor by phone at 330-747-2733 or
by email at info@eyecareassociates.com.**

The intent of this handout is to educate users about eye care. Information found on www.eyecareassociates.com is not intended to replace medical advice. Questions about treatment information should be addressed by your physician.