

Advancing Vision Care

The Geneva Eye Clinic is one of the leaders in medical and surgical eye care. Led by board-certified ophthalmologists, Geneva Eye Clinic is a full service vision center that specializes in advancing vision care through surgical procedures that have shown the highest levels of success.

Surgical procedures include:

- Advanced medical and surgical treatment for glaucoma
- New treatments for macular degeneration
- Bifocal and astigmatic correcting intraocular lens implants used to replace the natural lens during cataract surgery
- LASIK vision correction

The specialists at Geneva Eye Clinic are committed to providing the most advanced technology and treatment options to give patients the best possible outcomes.

To learn more about any of these procedures, call the Geneva Eye Clinic at (630) 232-1282 to schedule your consultation.



VISIT OUR WEB SITE AT WWW.GENEVAEYE.COM
FOR MORE INFORMATION.

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New treatment for dry eyes

Geneva Eye Clinic

Dry eye is a chronic disease affecting more than 100 million people. Without proper treatment, it can continue to worsen over time. There are two forms of dry eye: evaporative and aqueous deficient. Some people can have a combination of the two forms. Tears are made up of three layers: the lipid (oil) layer, the aqueous (water) layer and the mucin layer. The lipid layer prevents tear evaporation while the aqueous layer provides moisture and nourishment to the eye.

Aqueous deficient dry eye occurs when the lacrimal gland, which produces the water portion of the tears, does not produce enough aqueous to keep the eye comfortable and moist. Treatment for this type of dry eye consists of using artificial tears to try to replace the moisture, punctual plugs to stop the tears from draining quite so fast and keep more tears on the eye for a longer period of time, or cyclosporine ophthalmic emulsion 0.05% drops (Restasis) which is a prescription eye drop that can increase tear production.

Evaporative dry eye occurs when the lipid layer of the tears is deficient. It is estimated that 86 percent of all dry eye patients have evaporative dry eye. This form of dry eye is caused by meibomian gland dysfunction or blockages in the meibomian glands that are located in the upper and lower eyelids. There are about 75 of these glands in the lids of each eye and they create the oil layer that prevents the tears from evaporating too quickly. Tears can evaporate from 4 to 16 times faster with a deficient lipid layer. The lipid produced by a normal functioning meibomian gland has the consistency of olive oil and flows freely. With meibomian gland dysfunction, this oil can have the consistency of toothpaste and can be trapped in the glands. With chronic disease, the structure of the glands can be affected either by shortening in length or by completely shutting down. This damage is irreversible and can cause worsening of symptoms.

The first step is to have a dry eye

evaluation to determine which type of dry eye is present and whether or not the patient is a candidate for this treatment. The lipid layer of the tear film is measured by an imaging device called the Lipiview to see if it is deficient. The structure of the meibomian glands are visualized, the type of oil they produce is determined and the water component of the tears is measured. This will help to determine the specific treatment plan for each individual patient and their symptoms. If the patient is a candidate for Lipiflow, it can be done the same day if desired.

Geneva Eye Clinic is excited to announce that Lipiflow, a revolutionary new treatment for dry eyes, is now available in our office.

The Lipiflow System is a groundbreaking treatment that addresses the cause of evaporative dry eye. This 12-minute in-office procedure applies a combination of direct heat and massage to the eyelids. This liquefies the oil in the meibomian glands and gently expresses the oil out of the glands. Opening the blocked glands can allow your body to resume its natural production of normal tear film oil. While some patients report feeling relief soon after the procedure, it can take up to three or four months to see the maximum results. Recent studies have shown that about 70 percent of patients have not needed a re-treatment after three years. Although Lipiflow is not a cure for evaporative dry eye, it is a very important treatment aimed at preventing deterioration of the meibomian glands caused by chronic disease. Patients should become less dependent on their current dry eye therapies, be able to wear their contact lenses longer and generally be more comfortable with fewer symptoms.

Geneva Eye Clinic is proud to be one of the few clinics in the Chicagoland area to have this breakthrough technological advance in dry eye treatment available for our patients. Now we can do more than just treat the symptoms, we can treat the cause.

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