

**ADDENDUM TO GENERAL CONSENT FORM FOR GLAUCOMA SURGERY
ARGON LASER TRABECULOPLASTY (ALT)
SELECTIVE LASER TRABECULOPLASTY (SLT)**

Argon laser trabeculoplasty and selective laser trabeculoplasty surgeries are used for patients with open-angle Glaucoma. The laser is utilized to treat the drainage system of the eye known as the trabecular meshwork. Treating this area of the natural internal draining system is designed to improve the outflow of the fluid from the eye, thereby lowering the pressure.

This type of laser surgery will be effective in some patients but not in others. Your response is determined by the type of Glaucoma you have and the specific structures found in your drainage system. Your doctor cannot predict how well the laser will work before the laser surgery.

The procedure can be done in one or two trips to the laser center. The laser machine looks similar to the examination microscope that the doctor uses at each visit to look into your eyes. The laser itself makes little noise and flashes a light about as bright as a flash on a camera. Almost everybody finds the procedure comfortable and painless. The procedure generally takes about 10-20 minutes.

You may need to use drops before and after laser surgery. Since the pressure in the eye may temporarily go up after the laser surgery, you will likely need to have your pressure measured one half-hour to one hour after the surgery. If the pressure does go up, you may require additional medications to lower the pressure, which will be administered in the office. Rarely, the pressure in the eye could elevate to a level that might require surgery in the operating room to lower the pressure.

Most people notice some blurring in their vision after the laser surgery. This generally clears within a few hours in most individuals. The chance of your vision being permanently affected from this laser is very, very small.

You will need to use drops after the laser to help the eye heal correctly. You will probably use the new drops for about one week. In most cases, **you will be asked to continue your Glaucoma medications after the laser procedure.** The doctors will notify you if there is any exception to continuing your medications.

It will take several weeks to determine how much of your eye pressure will be lowered with this treatment. You may require additional laser surgery to lower the pressure if it is not sufficiently lower after the first laser treatment.

Glaucoma laser surgery may be followed by other complications. Although rare and unusual, there may be bleeding with the eye, inflammation, cataract, or increase in the pressure of the eye requiring different and more extensive treatment.

PATIENT'S STATEMENT OF ACCEPTANCE AND UNDERSTANDING

Not every conceivable complication could be covered in this form, and I understand that no warranty of guarantee has been made to me regarding the result of the proposed laser surgery. I have read and understand the consent form, and have had my questions answered. I authorize my surgeon to proceed with the operation on my _____ eye (patient should fill in right or left)

Patient (or person Authorized to sign for patient)

Date

Witness

Date