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Eye Associates of Boca Raton, P.A.

Surgical & Medical Eye Care

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LASIK RETURNS TO EYE ASSOCIATES



Matthew J. Weiss, M.D.

Cornea, Cataract & Refractive Surgeon

Patients often ask me, "Why do I need glasses to see clearly?" Avoiding a lengthy mathematical discussion the answer is in how the light is bent as it enters the eye. Just like a camera, the eye must be focused in order to produce a clear image. In many cases, the lenses of the eye are not of the correct power to allow for unaided clear vision. In these cases, something must be done to re-focus the light as it enters the eye so that you can improve your vision without eyeglasses.

many patients with myopia, hyperopia and even astigmatism.

LASIK has been constantly evolving since its creation and has now become a safe and highly reproducible procedure. Modern LASIK is a bladeless procedure performed with a laser as an outpatient procedure that typically takes less than ten minutes for both eyes. In this advanced two-staged procedure, a femtosecond laser is used to precisely create a small flap in the cornea, which is the clear covering of the eye. This flap is then lifted and a second excimer laser is used to reshape the cornea beneath the flap into a better focused lens for your particular eye. For most people, this reshaping takes less than thirty seconds. Once the reshaping is completed, the flap is closed and the procedure is finished. Many patients experience a significant improvement in their vision without glasses as early as the first day after the procedure!

Near-sightedness, far-sightedness, astigmatism and presbyopia are the four conditions that can affect the eyes ability to focus. Near-sightedness is when the lenses of the eye are too strong allowing one to see clearly up close, but not far away. The opposite is true for far-sighted or hyperopic patients. For these people the lenses are too weak and their vision is blurry both near and far away. Astigmatism refers to an eye that is not a perfectly round, but rather shaped like a football. These patients, who can also have myopia or hyperopia, have difficulty seeing at any distance as well. Lastly, presbyopia starts to develop around the age of forty when the lens inside the eye stiffens and can no longer change its shape. When this happens, the eye gradually loses the ability to see up close without assistance.

To many patients this sounds like miracle surgery, and in a lot of cases it can be. Unfortunately, not everyone will be a candidate for LASIK. Patients with very dry eyes, unstable glasses prescriptions, or abnormally thinned corneas, cannot safely undergo the procedure. One common misconception is that LASIK is only for younger patients. This is no longer true! Patients who have undergone successful cataract surgery and want more finely focused vision may also benefit from LASIK.

Glasses and contact lenses are, and always have been, wonderful solutions for restoring high-quality vision to patients living in an out-of-focus world. However, for many patients, they are not the only options available. LASIK, which stands for Laser-Assisted in-situ Keratomileusis, is a surgical option for patients wishing to see better without being as dependent on glasses or contact lenses. This technique can be used to re-focus the vision for

*Are you a candidate for LASIK?
Call Eye Associates today for your
FREE LASIK SCREENING*



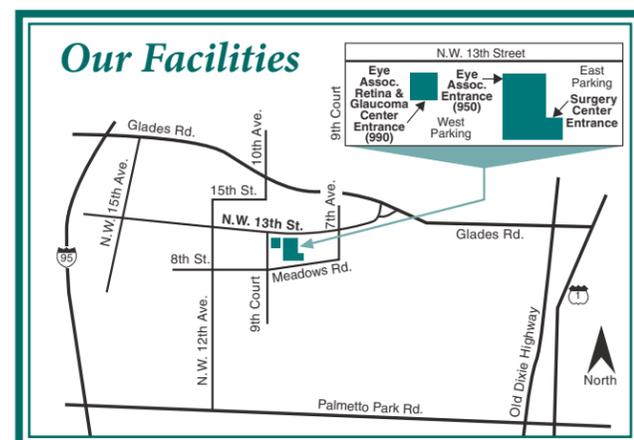
Matthew J. Weiss, M.D.
Cornea, Cataract & Refractive Surgeon

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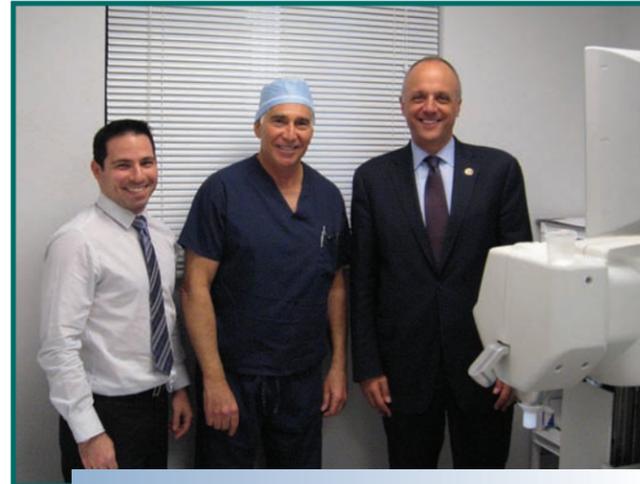


*and
Dr. Perlman
Restores Sight
to Toddler*

CONGRESSMAN DEUTCH VISITS SURGERY CENTER

On February 20th, Eye Associates welcomed Congressman Ted Deutch to our outpatient surgery center.

The Congressman was able to see first-hand how the efficiency of the center is able to save the health care system significant costs when paying for eye surgery. He even “suited” up to observe Dr. Howard Goldman and Dr. Matthew Weiss performing surgical procedures. “It’s truly amazing what technology and the skillful hands of a surgeon are able to do” said Congressman Deutch.



Matthew Weiss, MD, Howard Goldman, MD, and Congressman Ted Deutch

PHYSICIANS LECTURE TO MED STUDENTS

Second year medical students recently had the benefit of a lecture series given by doctors from Eye Associates of Boca. Doctors Howard B. Goldman, Mark Weiner, Douglas Kohl, and Ernesto Segal delivered lectures to Florida Atlantic Students in the area of their specialties. Among the subjects covered were Cataract, Glaucoma and how systemic diseases can affect the eye. The physicians are also Assistant Associate Professors at FAU.

DR. PERLMAN RESTORES SIGHT TO TODDLER



Jeffrey Perlman, M.D.
Pediatric & Neuro-Ophthalmology
Cataract & Laser Surgery

In December 2013, Jeffrey Perlman, M.D. gave a special gift to a local family that changed their lives forever. Nineteen month old Giullinana underwent surgery for strabismus, a condition in which the eyes are not properly aligned with each other and results in lack of proper binocular vision. Giullinana

came to the practice a very frightened, and shy little girl because she was unable to see properly. After her procedure, she became the active outgoing toddler her mother had long awaited. The surgery was made possible by Dr. Perlman’s generous gift of time and expertise along with many local people who came to the aid of the family who unfortunately did not have insurance or the means to pay. Giullinana was referred by the Caridad Center in Boynton Beach. The Caridad Clinic is a non-profit organization that relies on donations to sustain operations. Anyone wishing to donate to the Caridad Clinic so others like Giulliana might receive the gift of sight should call (561)737-6336.

CUSTOMER SERVICE A PRIORITY AT EYE ASSOCIATES



If you have visited your physician’s office recently, I am sure you’ve probably seen signs like these or very similar ones. In today’s world of texting, blogging, voicemail, and e-mail it seems the fine art of verbal communication has fallen by the wayside. Advanced technology in many cases has replaced good old-fashioned personal contact.

While as healthcare providers we must also welcome new technology for the improvement in patient care and communication, we are working diligently to improve face to face contact and interaction with our patients. We believe that the human aspect of communication is important to our patients care and treatment and it’s critical to outcomes and overall satisfaction with our services.

Many years ago we removed sliding glass partitions in the reception area to create a more open and welcome

environment. The open counter allows access to our staff and in turn we are able to monitor the lobby to be assured our patient’s are comfortable.

In the coming months you will notice a change in the appearance of our staff. Our front office personnel will be in bright cheery and yet more professional turquoise and black uniforms. We think you will like the new look.

Through the hiring of a professional coach utilizing customer service role playing exercises to providing procedural training manuals and checklists for accuracy we are reinforcing our policy of delivering exceptional patient service and treatment.

At Eye Associates of Boca, we realize that you have a choice in your health care providers. We strive to deliver unmatched medical and surgical care along with customer service to make your visit the best possible total vision experience.

ELECTRONIC MEDICAL RECORDS – THE PRESSURE IS ON

As many of you know, our government is applying pressure to physicians to convert from standard paper charting to an electronic medical record system. Their hope is that all physicians comply and eventually would be able to communicate information to multiple providers through a safe and prompt system, allowing improved patient care and reporting.

While in theory this system should ultimately improve communication between multiple doctors, allowing better and more efficient treatment and care of their patients, there are still many obstacles to overcome.

One of the many challenges in the conversion to electronic medical records is the time that must be invested into staff training, transferring data accurately and working through software “glitches” along the way.

Unfortunately it is sometimes the patient who is inconvenienced by extended wait times in the office or having to re-schedule appointments.

Our intention is to stay the course and work through all the issues that we are confronted with in the hopes that the ultimate reward will be better for all. We apologize if your recent visit has taken longer than you have been accustomed to and we do recognize that your time is valuable. Our commitment is as it has always been to do everything possible to make your visit efficient and informative.

Thank you for your patience and continued support!