

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SILVERSTEIN OPHTHALMOLOGY GROUP, L.L.C.

Offers New Hope for Glaucoma Patients with SLT Laser (Lumenis,Inc.) (NYSE: LUME)

Clifton/Chester, NJ – Rodger H. Silverstein, M.D. and Niki A. Silverstein, M.D., Co-Directors, **The Silverstein Eye Group, Clifton, NJ and West Jersey Eye M.D.'s, Chester, NJ** are proud to be one of the first in their field to offer **SLT**, *Selective Laser Trabeculoplasty*, a new laser therapy for the treatment of open-angle glaucoma. The addition of this remarkable technology to their practice reaffirms the **SILVERSTEIN's** commitment to utilizing the most advanced therapies in the treatment of ophthalmologic diseases. "Utilizing this advanced **SLT** therapy enables us to selectively target pigmented cells in the trabecular meshwork of the eye, leaving all other cells intact. This stimulation promotes the body's own natural healing response, allowing fluid to drain more freely out of the eye to successfully lower intraocular eye pressure." states, **Rodger Silverstein, M.D.**

Glaucoma is a condition in which the normal fluid pressure inside the eye slowly rises as a result of the fluid aqueous humor, which normally flows in and out of the eye, not being able to drain properly. In glaucoma, the fluid collects and causes pressure damage to the optic nerve and loss of vision.

The **symptoms** of glaucoma in most cases are not easily recognized until the disease begins to cause some loss of vision. Small blind spots may begin to develop, usually in the side or peripheral vision. Symptoms may include – blurred or narrowed field of vision, severe pain in the eye(s), haloes (which may appear as rainbows) around lights, nausea, vomiting, and headache. However, since glaucoma is usually asymptomatic until significant loss of vision occurs, it is very important to have regular eye examinations, especially for those persons over the age of forty.

The **diagnosis** of glaucoma is made by an ophthalmologist who may perform the following tests – visual acuity, a common eye chart test which measures vision ability at various distances; pupil dilation where the pupil is widened with eye drops to allow a close-up examination of the eye's retina; visual field test which is designed to measure a person's side vision; and tonometry, a standard test to determine the fluid pressure inside the eye.

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Among the **treatments** recommended for glaucoma are *medications* to cause the eye to produce less fluid or lower pressure by helping fluid drain from the eye; *conventional surgery* to create a new opening for fluid to leave the eye; and several types of *laser surgery*, the most common one being Argon Laser Trabeculoplasty (ALT), which is used to place “spot welds” in the drainage area of the eye allowing fluid to drain more freely. Now, with the advanced technology of the SLT laser, there is new hope for patients. In a Clinical Trial conducted in 2003 by Wills Eye Hospital and Tulane Medical Center, it was noted by L. Jay Katz, M.D., Co-Director of the Glaucoma Service at Wills Eye Hospital, “Use of the **SLT** laser could produce fewer drug-related side effects, minimize cost and lead to a better quality of life.”

The **SLT** laser enables the **SILVERSTEIN** practice to offer their patients with *open-angle* glaucoma the latest in laser technology. “Unlike its predecessors, the innovative **SLT** laser therapy does not create tissue damage, meaning that it can be repeated more times than previous laser modalities to lower pressure and to reduce dependence on, or complement medications.” remarks **Niki A. Silverstein, M.D.** **SLT** is reimbursable under Medicare and promises to be the preferred glaucoma treatment in the future.

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***About the practice.** The **SILVERSTEIN** name is well recognized for generations of excellence in the field of Ophthalmology. **SILVERSTEIN Ophthalmology Group, L.L.C.**, prides itself on being a **family practice**. **Rodger H. Silverstein, M.D.** and **Niki A. Silverstein, M.D.** are **board-certified ophthalmologists** in general and surgical ophthalmology practice having over two decades of combine. The surgeons remain at the forefront of technology and expertise in the performance of laser vision correction surgery including **LASIK, PRK, RK, and CTR** for complicated cataract surgery procedures and are certified in the use of the **SLT, VISX and Autonomous (flying spot/LADARVision®)** lasers. The practice provides a full range of eye care services to benefit everyone, from complete eye examinations for adults, seniors and children, to treatment of eye problems and diseases of the eye, and contact lens fittings. The practice also conveniently offers complete **Optical Outlets** in both their Chester and Clifton Offices with a vast selection of the latest styles in quality eye wear at competitive pricing. On the cosmetic side, the surgeons at **SILVERSTEIN Ophthalmology** are certified to perform **Laser Skin Resurfacing** to reduce fine wrinkles and lines, and **Laser Cosmetic Eyelid Surgery** using the new **CO₂ Laser** to improve the way your eyes look.*

***Rodger H. Silverstein, M.D.** is a prominent educator in the field of Ophthalmology and speaks to corporations, organizations and community events on all areas of eye care. For more information on the practice, visit www.silversteineyeMDs.com.*