

SEDGEWICK EYE ASSOCIATES, P.C.

CONSENT FOR: SELECTIVE LASER TRABECULAPLASTY (SLT)
 ARGON LASER TRABECULOPLASTY (ALT)

RIGHT EYE

LEFT EYE

This is a laser technique used for people with open angle glaucoma. The laser makes small burns in the drainage area of the eye in order to let more fluid drain out of the eye. There are some individuals who respond well to this technique and others who do not respond at all. Your response is determined by the type of open angle glaucoma you have and the basic makeup of your eye.

The procedure is done at one sitting. It may need to be repeated within 6-8 weeks in order to determine if you have responded to the technique. The laser machine looks like the examination microscope that the Doctor uses to look at your eyes at an exam visit. The laser itself makes a bright flash, about as bright as a camera. Almost everybody finds the procedure comfortable and without any significant pain. Some individuals feel a little pressure during the procedure. The procedure takes about 10 to 15 minutes to perform.

You might need drops after the procedure has been completed. It will depend on whether the pressure inside the eye has gone up or not. About half of the patients need drops after the procedure, usually only for about a week and then they are stopped. Rarely, the pressure in the eye elevates to a very high pressure and does not come down. If this happens, you may require surgery in the operating room to lower the pressure. This is a most unusual event and has not occurred to Dr. Sedgewick.

Most patients notice some blurring in their vision after the laser. This usually clears within a few hours in most people. The chance of your vision being permanently affected after the laser is very, very small. Please continue taking your glaucoma medications after the procedure.

Other risks from this procedure include inflammation inside the eye, bleeding inside and outside the eye (usually a small amount but can be a large amount), double vision or scar formation between the iris and the cornea that prevents the iris from moving correctly. The procedure may not lower the pressure of the fluid inside your eye. The use of drops has been shown to be as effective before the procedure as after the procedure. Rarely, damage to the cornea or retina from the laser light can occur and these risks are lowered by having a skilled surgeon perform the procedure, but cannot be prevented. Dr Sedgewick has been performing these laser procedures since 1998.

X _____ Date _____
Patient or authorized person

X _____ Date: _____
Witness