



Leaders in Eye Care

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## Glaucoma SLT Laser Information

Selective Laser Trabeculoplasty (SLT) is an exciting procedure we now offer for people with glaucoma or ocular hypertension (elevated eye pressure) at the Eye Center of Texas. SLT treats the root cause of glaucoma which is poor outflow of fluid from the eye that allows pressure to increase causing damage to the optic nerve. Glaucoma, in its early stages is completely asymptomatic so people do not realize the damage that is occurring. Over years, there is loss of peripheral vision that can eventually affect central vision with loss of visual acuity. Unfortunately, this damage is permanent and irreversible. Our goal is to catch the disease in its early stages and prevent it from causing noticeable loss of vision.

The SLT is an option for the treatment of glaucoma or ocular hypertension. It helps fluid flow through the drainage outlet of the eye and brings the pressure down. It is effective in 80% of people and, many times, we can reduce the number of drops people use, or even eliminate the need for drops altogether! The average duration of effect is 3-5 years and can be repeated if necessary. It is important that you understand this is a treatment for glaucoma but not a cure. It is very important you continue to see your eye doctor for pressure checks every 3-6 months depending upon the severity of your glaucoma and response to treatment.

The SLT is a painless procedure performed in the office that takes about 5 minutes to perform. One half of the outflow area is treated at a time and this treatment can be performed on the other half of the outflow area if necessary. One eye is treated at a time; the second eye is usually treated a few days or a week later. The laser treatment takes 6 weeks to work and we ask you to continue your glaucoma drops until we tell you to stop. Also, you will need a drop for control of mild inflammation for 1 week after your laser treatment.

Your next appointment is: \_\_\_\_\_

Drop Instructions: \_\_\_\_\_

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