

T · H · E
OPHTHALMIC
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Hearing services coming soon!

We will soon be offering audiology services to our patients through a service called **EYE CAN HEAR**, including free hearing screenings.

Many patients experience both loss of vision and hearing as they get older and we are excited about the possibility of improving patients’ lives with dual sensory solutions to

deal with both hearing and vision loss.

Look for more information in next month’s newsletter about this exciting addition to our services!

Winter-“Eyes”

During the winter months many patients complain that their eyes feel uncommonly dry and irritated. This condition may be caused by the drying effects of indoor heat and the lack of humidity in the outside air. Relief is usually accomplished with the use of over-the-counter lubricating eye drops such as Systane and Refresh Plus. When these artificial tears are not sufficient for relief, a supplement called HYDROEYE or a prescription medication such as Restasis, may be necessary to repair your tear film. Please ask your doctor about these solutions for dry eye.

Ask The Doctor: *Alexander Llinas, M.D., Ph.D.*



What is Glaucoma and how do I know if I have it?

“Glaucoma is a disease of the eye that causes a buildup of pressure inside the eye. There are many types of glaucoma, but the two most common are due

to a blockage of the drainage system due to cataracts or a breakdown of the drainage system itself. These conditions are more common in people over the age of 45 and are treated with drops or surgery or both. There

may be no symptoms until the vision is permanently lost, which is why it is important to have your eye, or intraocular, pressure checked annually, especially if you have a family history of Glaucoma and/or cataracts.”

Interested in Laser Vision Correction? A consultation with one of our Laser Vision Correction surgeons is the best way to determine if the procedure is right for you! Schedule a no charge consultation today and take the first step toward freedom from dependence on glasses and contact lenses!

The Ophthalmic Center is proud to offer **complete eye care for the entire family** provided by Dr. Vincent Basilice, Medical Director, Retinal specialist Dr. Crapotta, Corneal specialist Dr. Conners, Glaucoma specialist Dr. Llinas and our Optometrist Dr. Schaffer.

Refractive Cataract Surgery

At The Ophthalmic Center our surgeons specialize in refractive cataract surgery. Cataracts start to develop in our 40's and slowly progress often without our notice. Signs of Cataract progression are trouble driving at night, especially in the rain, glare and halos around lights, decreased reading vision, or a "film" over your vision. If you are

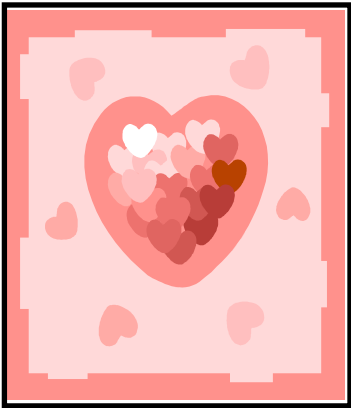
experiencing any of these symptoms it might be time to learn more about cataract surgery.

Even patients who have mild cataracts, without symptoms may be eligible for refractive cataract surgery.

With advances in today's technology our surgeons

have the ability to eliminate your dependence on glasses for distance AND near with the use of special lenses.

Ask about our **Refractive Cataract Surgery** special for the month of February and receive \$250 off your procedure



We love caring for our patients and wish all of you
A HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!
May you spend it with the ones you love!

Meet Our Staff: Kelsey Ring, *Technician*

Kelsey has been at TOC for two years. She is known for her bubbly, outgoing personality and always has a smile for our patients. In her free time, Kelsey likes to go out dancing and *loves* playing with her dog Apollo! Apollo is a very handsome Boxer who just turned a year old. Say hi to Kelsey when you see her!



Spotlight: *Selective Laser Trabeculoplasty:* Glaucoma treatment may eliminate the need for drops

Glaucoma is a chronic condition that is generally treated with eye drops. These drops can be very expensive, even with a prescription plan. Compliance can also be a problem as patients may forget to

use their drops or have trouble administering them. A laser procedure called SLT can lower the pressure without the need for long term medication or multiple medications. The procedure is

painless and is performed in our office. If you have Glaucoma and would like to reduce or eliminate the need for eye drops, please ask to be evaluated for SLT.



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**Check out our
Blog!**