Eye and Laser Medical Center A Professional Corporation

SUMMER 2009

Sandy T. Feldman, M.D., M.S. *"She's the Surgeon to See"*

learview News

A Message from Dr. Feldman

Dear Patients,

The days are getting longer, the Padres have returned to the field and summer is in the air in San Diego. At ClearView Eye and Laser Medical Center, we are celebrating summer by introducing the new eyelash enhancement product, Latisse™, and letting you know how your tax refund can lead to better vision.

We also are revealing how to keep your eyes healthy with some simple tips. Many of you know that as you age your vision can change. For some, that means a higher incidence of eye abnormalities like macular degeneration, glaucoma and cataracts. In this issue, we profile one of our cataract patients and let you know more about the risk factors for cataracts.

And, if you or one of your friends or family members are ready to give yourself a break from your glasses and contacts this summer, come see us for a thorough vision correction evaluation. Get ready to celebrate all the signs of summer with your new vision!

Sandy T. Feldman, M.D., M.S. *Medical Director, ClearView Eye and Laser Medical Center*

Turn Your Tax Refund Into Your Best Vision Use Your Health Savings Account Plan to Help You See!

There is a way to keep that tax refund earning for you. Now, you can put that tax refund towards good sight! You can also set aside the money needed for medical procedures like LASIK, Implantable Contact Lens and other vision correction surgeries in your Health Savings Account.

Health Savings Accounts (HSA's) are like Flexible Spending Accounts (FSA's) that are specifically designed for medical expenses. The advantage of having a HSA is that the account is tax free and the monies roll over each year. Monies are not forfeited at the end of the year as in FSA's. The expenses paid by Health Savings Accounts also are tax-deductible for self-employed account holders. To see if a HSA is right for you, talk to your Human Resources department, health care plan provider or call us with your questions.

Luscious Lashes Can Be Yours With Latisse™

Recently, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved Latisse[™] for eyelash hypotrichosis, which means having inadequate or sparse lashes. Latisse[™] is the first and only prescription treatment approved by the FDA for growing longer, fuller and darker eyelashes in as little as four weeks.

"After having LASIK, many of our patients were looking for a way to emphasize their new look and new vision. What better way to draw attention to your eyes than with longer, thicker and darker lashes," said Dr. Sandy T. Feldman, ClearView Medical Director, renowned corneal expert and refractive surgeon.

The once-a-day treatment is available only by prescription. Before starting to use Latisse[™], Dr. Feldman will conduct a thorough evaluation to see if you are a candidate for the innovative new product. And, for a limited time, when you refer a friend or family member for a LASIK consultation at ClearView Eye and Laser Medical Center, you will be eligible for a free Latisse[™] examination, normally valued at \$150.

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Facts About Cataracts

While researchers continue to study cataracts, their cause remains uncertain. However, certain risk factors include:

- Aging, most Americans older than 60 years have cataracts
- Medical conditions like diabetes, glaucoma, and metabolic abnormalities
- Exposure to ultraviolet light as well as radiation and air pollution can speed the development of cataracts
- Oral steroids and other medications
- Diets high in salt, smoking cigarettes or drinking heavily
- Physical injuries like a blow to eye, exposure to extreme hot or cold temperatures and chemical injury

Cataracts Can Happen At Any Age

Debora had always had good vision, but in her late forties, she began to have trouble with her reading vision. She decided to have laser vision correction to enable good distance and reading vision. Unfortunately, after two surgeries at another center, Debora still needed glasses to correct her vision and was told she had an early onset cataract in her left eye.

After a few years, the San Diego resident's vision problems were getting worse making it harder for her to do her job. The 52-year-old vocational counselor works with military personnel at the Miramar Marine Corps base. She knew it was time to do something about the cataract when reading files, seeing the computer and even looking across the room was difficult.

The cataract had slowly obstructed Debora's vision by clouding the normally clear, natural lens of the eye. As the lens became increasingly cloudy, light was prevented from reaching the retina causing blurred vision and glare.

Several of Debora's friends recommended that she see Dr. Feldman at ClearView Eye and Laser Medical Center. Debora was impressed with how thorough the examination was. "Dr. Feldman asked lots of questions during the exam and then we discussed the different cataract treatment options. I felt like she really understood what I needed."

Debora chose to have the ReZoom[™] intraocular lens implanted during her cataract surgery in mid-May because it is a multifocal lens designed to address both distance and reading, much like a progressive lens.

The ReZoom[™] lens allows patients like Debora to easily focus on nearby objects, like menus, and far away objects, like street signs. After having her cataract procedure, Debora is back reading reports at work and hiking on the weekends without having to rely on her glasses.

"The best thing about having the procedure done is that I don't have to wear glasses," said Debora.