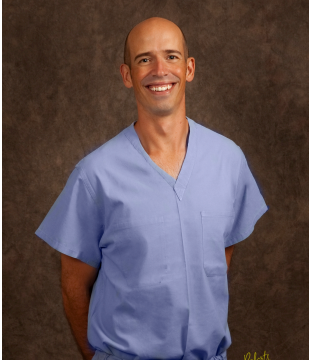




Glaucoma Surgery: Canaloplasty



The Procedure

Canaloplasty is an out patient surgical procedure performed in the operating room and uses a micro-catheter to open the eye's natural drainage system "Schlemm's canal". This canal is then inflated with a gel like material. The iTrack® micro-catheter is then removed while a suture is threaded through Schlemm's canal. The suture is then tied down resulting in tension on the the inner wall of the canal – just as you might pull on the strings of a "hoodie" to close the hood over your face. The suture placed in the eye's drainage canal can keep the canal stretched open for years. Once this canal is opened, the eye's fluid can drain through a more natural process allowing the pressure in the eye to drop to a more normal level.

Success

The number of medications required to keep the intraocular pressure (IOP) under control can usually be reduced and sometimes discontinued. This sustained reduction in drops used means that the cost of canaloplasty could easily be paid just with the cost savings from using fewer medications to control IOP. The reduction IOP after canaloplasty is about 34%. Most all of patients achieve reduced dependence on drops.

Recovery

Recovery is much faster than traditional glaucoma surgery. Your eye will be red but your vision is usually not effected. If you are an energetic person who enjoys such activities as watersports, it is important for you to know that having traditional glaucoma surgery

will severely limit your ability to participate in certain sports. No such limitation exists with Canaloplasty. Once healed, patients who have had Canaloplasty are able to return to their previous active lifestyles without restriction or limitation.