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NEWSLETTER

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**The Latest in LASIK,
 PRK and LASEK**

Over the last three years there have been revolutionary advancements in laser vision correction. In 2003, nearsighted astigmatic patients became the first FDA approved group to undergo custom laser correction. Custom laser wavefront technology used the principles of astrophysics in viewing distant stars to help create a unique fingerprint of your eye. Corrections became 25 times more accurate. In 2004, the VISX Star S4 laser which Dr. Mandel uses exclusively, became the only laser in the world to use Fourier analysis, the most advanced computer software to measure and treat an eye.

In 2005, farsighted and astigmatic patients became the latest FDA approved group to enjoy the benefits of Fourier analysis.

PRK and LASEK laser vision correction which treat vision problems on the surface of the eye (unlike LASIK which delivers the laser treatment under a flap), can also utilize the advancement of Fourier analysis for better vision.

Additionally, we continue to have great success with helping patients reduce or eliminate their need for reading glasses with monovision correction.

**How Can I Make My Contacts
 Safer and More Comfortable?**

As we age, our eyes become drier. Dryness not only leads to wearing lenses for less hours comfortably, but increases the risk of serious eye infections. While we cannot roll back the chronological clock, we have a few methods to make your contact lens wear safer and more comfortable. First, here's a little background, tears are produced by your lacrimal gland in the upper outer quadrant of your eye and tears are drained into two tiny openings on the inner eyelids near your nose. We have had a lot of success placing microscopic blockers in the tear drainage system to act as a dam and allow both your natural and artificial tears to accumulate on your eye and contact lens. In addition, your contact lens acts as a sponge. By changing the water content of your lens we can make your eyes more moist and safer. Tears are not just water but are a complex combination of aqueous tears, mucus and oils. Your tears not only lubricate the eyes but deliver oxygen and other nutrients to the corneal surface.

Dr Mandel in the News

During the Academy of Ophthalmology Meeting in November 2004, Dr. Mandel was asked to teach surgeons using the world's leading laser, VISX, how to optimize their laser vision correction results.

In April 2005, during the "American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery Meeting", Dr. Mandel was invited to present the results of his wavefront Fourier study.

Dr. Marc and Steven Odrich

Many of you have had the opportunity to meet and be taken care of by Dr. Mandel's associates, Dr.'s Marc and Steven Odrich. Yes, they are brothers and what they have in common is an expertise in their fields that is matched by only a few doctors in the world. Steven Odrich is our cataract and glaucoma specialist. Marc Odrich is a corneal and external disease specialist. Both doctors trained at Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center and currently perform surgery at Manhattan Eye, Ear and Throat Hospital.

**What's Next in Laser
 Vision Correction?**

The Star S4 VISX Laser has become the only laser delivery system in the world to add the most sophisticated iris registration system for surgical fidelity. The actual microscopic shape of the iris is analyzed to help compensate for circular movements of the eye during surgery. The VISX Star S4 Laser System already has the world's only 3 dimensional eye tracking system which tracks over 99% of eye movements during treatment.

We expect very highly nearsighted patients and patients with mixed astigmatism to receive FDA approval for Fourier analysis sometime during 2005.

For the extremely nearsighted patient, we are enrolling patients on the waiting list for the intraocular implant treatment group. Although this treatment was FDA approved in 2004, Dr. Mandel is waiting for longer term results before recommending this treatment to his patients.

Call our office if you'd like to arrange a complimentary LASIK consultation.

Next Newsletter: Developments in LASIK • Meet Our Staff • Floaters and Flashes • Monovision

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