



NORTHWEST EYE SURGEONS

Press Release

Northwest Eye Surgeons First to Perform SMILE Procedures for Correction of Myopia

Northwest Eye Surgeons Offers Latest Laser Vision Correction Technology

SEATTLE, WA (October 3, 2019) – Northwest Eye Surgeons announced today that it is the first ophthalmic practice in the Pacific Northwest (WA, OR, ID, AK) to offer SMILE, minimally-invasive laser vision correction. With millions of procedures performed worldwide year to date, SMILE is a proven procedure for treatment of myopia or nearsightedness. Only recently, however, was this revolutionary procedure FDA approved to be performed in the U.S.*

SMILE is the first minimally-invasive laser vision correction procedure available anywhere in the world. SMILE stands for Small Incision Lenticule Extraction. This revolutionary procedure developed by ZEISS utilizes the VisuMax® femtosecond laser to create a thin, contact-lens-shaped layer (called a lenticule) just beneath the surface of the eye and then a small opening, through which that layer is removed, correcting the patient's vision. The VisuMax femtosecond laser, which Northwest Eye Surgeons acquired in July 2019, is the only laser that can currently perform the SMILE procedure. With this new treatment option, Northwest Eye Surgeons is now offering patients access to the newest, most advanced refractive laser vision correction technology currently available.

Audrey Talley Rostov, MD; cornea, cataract and refractive surgeon at Northwest Eye Surgeons says, *"We are so excited to offer the latest in laser vision technology! I have been working with the VisuMax for the last year, and am extremely impressed by the accuracy of the laser, the comfort for patients and most importantly, the results with the new SMILE procedure."*

Northwest Eye Surgeons is the only practice in the Pacific Northwest to offer a full refractive surgery program: SMILE, LASIK and PRK. With SMILE, patients can reduce or eliminate their need for glasses and contacts, experience less dry eye and discomfort (than Lasik or PRK) during and after the procedure, and rapidly return to daily routine and activities.

Spencer Michael, Northwest Eye Surgeons CEO, raves about the new technology the VisuMax laser has to offer - *"Our sole purpose at Northwest Eye Surgeons is to improve the quality of*



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peoples' lives. The simple, effective and minimally invasive SMILE procedure does this better than any technology that we have seen to date. We believed in the effectiveness so much that a longtime good friend was the first person at our clinic to receive this procedure; he loved the comfort, speed, and reduced recovery that make this procedure the best choice for most patients."

***FDA Approved Indications for Use:**

For use in the reduction or elimination of myopia with or without astigmatism for spherical refractive error from -1.00D to -10.00D, for an Astigmatism from -0.75D through -3.00D, and when the MRSE is no greater than -10.00D in the eye to be treated. SMILE is indicated for patients who are 22 years of age or older with documentation of stable manifest refraction over the past year.

About Northwest Eye Surgeons

Northwest Eye Surgeons is the premier eye surgical center in the Northwest and remains committed to its tradition of personalized, high-quality patient care, advanced technology and excellent results. The staff at Northwest Eye Surgeons includes a nationally-recognized team of specialized ophthalmic surgeons and optometric physicians. Formed in 1986, Northwest Eye Surgeons now has clinics in Seattle, Sequim, Smokey Point, Renton, Mount Vernon and Bellingham (and four surgery centers). Find more information at www.nweyes.com.