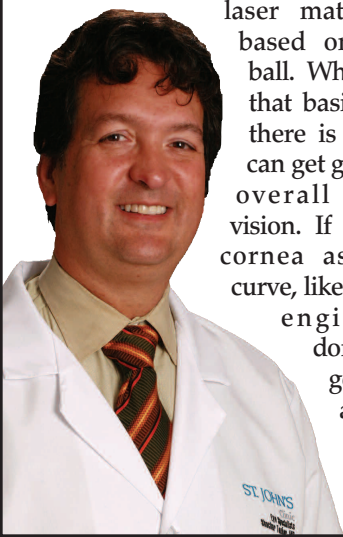


Night Vision Problems— High-Performance Solutions

Nighttime vision quality was a major factor for St. John's paramedic Sean Gasper when he underwent LASIK surgery last fall. "As a paramedic who often drives the ambulance, my vision needed to be excellent as quickly as possible. Before the procedure I had 20/100 vision and always had to wear my contacts. Now my vision is better than 20/20, and it was amazing how quickly I was able to see the results. I see better now than I ever did with my contacts and have had no problems with nighttime glare or halos."

"The Allegretto Wave is the first laser that has understood the unique shape of the cornea and has not altered that in an effort to improve vision," Dr. Shachar Tauber said. "All of the lasers up until now have assumed the cornea is a round ball and the

laser mathematics are based on that round ball. When you make that basic assumption, there is a chance you can get glare, halos and overall poor night vision. If you treat the cornea as a complex curve, like the Allegretto engineers have done, it allows for good vision day and night."



Shachar Tauber, M.D.



The Allegretto Wave is also capable of producing some of the largest available optical zones, which is the portion of the cornea that has been corrected by the laser. A larger optical zone is especially important

for patients with very large pupils. If a patient's pupil is large and the treatment zone is small, they may experience poor peripheral vision, poor night vision, and a higher incidence of glare and halos. In addition, nighttime and dark conditions cause a normal pupil to become larger, allowing the maximum amount of light to enter the eye. Laser vision correction needs to take this fact into account, and now with the introduction of the Allegretto Wave, we can.

"If the treatment zone is smaller than the size of the pupil at it's largest, there is a chance that the patient will have poor night vision or problems with glare and halos," Dr. Tauber said. "It is not only about the size of the pupil. Superior night vision is a marriage of good surgery, a good laser, good tracking, and a respect for the complex geometry of the cornea. If you have all of those things in place, you will get the results our patients are seeing, true high-performance vision."

For more information call St. John's Clinic-Eye Specialists at 417-820-9393.