

LASIK Eye Surgery

Every ophthalmologist, no matter whether he or she performs LASIK surgery, is always asked, "What do you think of LASIK – that laser refractive surgery for nearsightedness?" Some are surprised to learn that the Dean McGee Eye Institute (DMEI) physicians do laser eye surgery. They think of the Institute for blinding eye disease, but not for elective refractive surgery. In fact, DMEI had one of the first investigational lasers in the country in the 1980's and DMEI purchased the country's first VISX refractive laser in 1995! Now, nine years later, DMEI operates a state-of-the-art laser facility: the Stephenson Laser Center. The Center recognizes the extraordinary generosity of Tulsans Charles and Peggy Stephenson. Several DMEI ophthalmologists perform LASIK surgery at the Stephenson Laser Center, including Drs. Charlie Bogie, David Jackson, Darrell Pickard, and Jeff Shaver. All are VISX-certified with years of refractive surgery experience.

The Dean McGee Eye Institute is committed to advancing the science of ophthalmology. Its research laboratories rank 8th in the country in National Institutes of Health research funding. Within the past year the Stephenson Laser Center's Medical Director, Dr. David Jackson, has published several important scientific articles in journals such as the *Journal of Cataract and Refractive Surgery* and *Cornea* reporting on more accurate surgical techniques and management of postoperative problems.

So, what do we think of LASIK? We think it's a highly sophisticated surgical procedure with very predictable and excellent results in the hands of an excellent surgeon and state-of-the-art equipment. It can eliminate or reduce the need for glasses in many individuals with nearsightedness, farsightedness, and astigmatism. It IS surgery, and prospective patients need to be thoroughly evaluated and informed as to the small risk of problems and what they can expect in terms of vision. It can be a truly wonderful, life-changing event for the right patient, in the right surgical hands.

If you would like to learn more about helping the Dean McGee Eye Institute, contact Norma Smith at 271-2010 or norma-smith@dmei.org.



VISX Star 4 excimer laser with wavefront technology

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The Dean McGee Eye Institute is dedicated to serving our community through excellence and leadership in eye care, education, and vision research.



DMEI's Stephenson Laser Center

The Dean McGee Eye Institute is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization based on the campus of the Oklahoma Health Center in Oklahoma City. Its forty ophthalmologists and scientists care for over 130,000

patients annually and rank eighth nationally in funding from the National Institutes of Health.



The Dean A. McGee

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