

The *Eyeline*

VISION INSIGHTS FROM THE REGION'S LEADING EYE SURGERY SPECIALISTS

Ophthalmology, LTD: On the Forefront of Medical and Surgical Eye Care

Seeing your grandchildren. Reading. Driving. Enjoying the vibrant sunsets of summer. Your eyes are the windows to the world around you. Because your eyesight is so important, you should trust your care to the specialists at **Ophthalmology, LTD**. Our surgeons have fellowship training in retina and vitreous surgery, glaucoma, corneal and external diseases and ocular plastic surgery. They have this extra training to give you the most advanced eye care.

At Ophthalmology, LTD we specialize in:

- Cataracts and implant surgery
- Diseases and surgery of the retina and vitreous
- Corneal surgery/external eye diseases
- Pediatric ophthalmology
- Plastic and reconstructive surgery of eyelids, orbit and lacrimal systems
- Glaucoma management and surgery
- Comprehensive ophthalmology

Since 1968, Ophthalmology, LTD has been a trusted leader in eye care. Our Physicians and Surgeons continue to work with other Ophthalmologists, Optometrists, Physicians and medical students. We are proud to be the region's only **Tertiary Eye Surgery Specialists** with a fully equipped high-tech surgery center that is dedicated to eye surgery only.

As you read this issue of *The Eyeline* you will see why Ophthalmology, LTD is truly on the leading edge when it comes to medical and surgical eye care.

New Hope for Glaucoma Patients

By Gregory D. Osmundson, MD

A new laser surgery is helping patients with Glaucoma find relief. **Selective Laser Trabeculoplasty (SLT)** is a new low-energy laser that helps drain fluids out of the eye, relieving intra-ocular pressure that causes vision loss. This new selective procedure is less traumatic on the eye than other laser treatments, however it is only used as an intermediate step between medication and traditional surgery.

SLT uses short pulses of low energy laser light to target cells that lead to pressure on the optic nerve and ultimate loss of vision. The painless, 10 to 20 minute procedure is done right at Ophthalmology, LTD and you will be able to resume activity in just a few days. Full effects of the treatment are felt in one to two weeks.



One Minute That Could Save Your Sight



Dr. Osmundson is the region's only surgeon Fellowship-trained in glaucoma management. His practice also includes cataract and implant surgery.

A new glaucoma test is now available at Ophthalmology, Ltd. The new **GDxVCC** technology assists our physicians in detecting patients with Glaucoma, the leading cause of preventable blindness in the United States.

The **GDxVCC** is a rapid and non-intrusive examine that can detect the actual site of damage caused by Glaucoma years before vision loss can occur. A safe laser scans the back of the eye measuring the retinal nerve fiber, which indicates if the disease is present. This precision data is then made into a color-coded thickness nerve map and compared to eyes that are healthy and to those that have been diagnosed with Glaucoma. Unlike other tests that measure the pressure of the eye, **GDxVCC** allows physicians to detect and treat Glaucoma early enough that vision may be saved.

If you have a personal or family history of glaucoma, you should be examined.

New Advances

Help Slow Wet Age-Related Macular Degeneration

Charles W. Mohler, MD PhD

New Treatments Show Promise for Macular Degeneration Patients

When the arteries that nourish your eye begin to harden it can result in a loss of vision from Age-Related Macular Degeneration (ARMD). Wet ARMD occurs when new blood vessels develop under the retina causing blurring and distortion of the central vision. ARMD was traditionally treated with laser surgery. But now a promising new medication called **Macugen** slows the loss of vision caused by wet ARMD. Although **Macugen** is new to the market, it has been approved by Medicare. **Macugen** is injected into the eye and patients experience little to no discomfort. While **Macugen** can't stop the loss of vision, it has been proven to slow the progress of the disease dramatically.

We also use two second generation lasers at Ophthalmology, Ltd. These "cold" lasers damage retinal vision cells less than the traditional argon laser. **Photo Dynamic Therapy (PDT)** combines medication and laser surgery to slow the progress of vision loss. A special dye is injected into the blood stream and settles into the abnormal blood vessels that form underneath the retina. A laser then activates the chemicals that close off the vessels to stop the bleeding and swelling of the eye. In clinical trials, nearly 60% of patients reported a stabilization of vision. The **Diode Laser** is an infrared laser which produces a heat shock to the wet ARMD blood vessels. This closes the ARMD vessels with little damage to the retinal cells. While **PDT** and the **Diode Laser** do not reverse the loss of vision, like **Macugen**, they slow the progress of further eyesight loss.



Dr. Mohler specializes in diseases and surgery of the retina and vitreous.

If you feel you may be a candidate for any of these new treatments, please call us at Ophthalmology, Ltd.

Treating Lazy Eye: Patching vs. Eye Drops

David R. West, MD

About two to three percent of the population suffers from a condition known as Amblyopia (Lazy Eye). This condition occurs when the brain does not acknowledge the images seen by the weak eye. Amblyopia is most commonly caused by a crossing of the weak eye or a large amount of nearsightedness or farsightedness in that eye compared to the other eye. In order to improve vision in the weak eye, the visual pathway needs to be stimulated and used.

Traditionally, Amblyopia has been treated by patching the strong eye and forcing the brain to focus with the weak one. Another method of treatment is the use of eye drops placed into the good eye to dilate the pupil and leave the vision unfocused. This also forces the brain to use the weaker eye, making it stronger. As vision gets better, the patch and drops are slowly tapered off. With correct use, patching or drops can improve vision in an amblyopic eye until the age of ten.

Proper diagnosis and management of lazy eye is important to prevent permanent decreased vision in children. It is recommended that all children be screened for Amblyopia between the ages of three and four.



Dr. West specializes in pediatric ophthalmology and small-incision cataract surgery.

Contact Ophthalmology LTD. and see the difference.



Richard T. Tschetter, MD

Dr. Tschetter specializes in small-incision cataract surgery and glaucoma management. He

received his BA from Huron College and his MD from Johns Hopkins Medical School. He interned at Johns Hopkins Hospital and then completed his Ophthalmology Residency at the Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit, MI. Dr. Tschetter founded Ophthalmology Ltd. in 1968.



David R. West, MD

Dr. West specializes in small-incision cataract surgery and pediatric ophthalmology. He

received his BA from the University of South Dakota and his MD from the University of Oklahoma Medical School. He completed his Ophthalmology Residency at the University of Missouri.



Charles W. Mohler, MD PhD

Dr. Mohler specializes in diseases and surgery of the retina and vitreous. He received his BS from

Purdue University and his MD from Case Western Reserve University. He completed his Ophthalmology Residency at Johns Hopkins Hospital and his Retinal Fellowship at Johns Hopkins and the University of Iowa.



Bryan J. Hammer, MD

Dr. Hammer specializes in oculoplastic surgery, small-incision cataract surgery and reconstruction of the lids and orbits as well as laser skin resurfacing.

He received his BS from the University of South Dakota and his MD from the University of South Dakota School of Medicine. He completed his Ophthalmology Residency at Texas A&M University and his Fellowship in oculoplastic surgery in Cincinnati, OH.



Byron T. Hohm, MD

Dr. Hohm specializes in corneal surgery and external eye diseases as well as small-incision cataract

surgery. He received his BA from the University of South Dakota and his MD from the University of Texas. He completed his Internship at Southwestern Hospital in Dallas, TX and his Ophthalmology Residency at the University of Missouri. He completed a Fellowship in corneal surgery and external diseases in Houston, TX.



Geoffrey T. Tufty, MD

Dr. Tufty specializes in small-incision cataract surgery and general ophthalmology.

He attended the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology, received his BS from the University of South Dakota and received his MD from the University of South Dakota School of Medicine. He completed his Ophthalmology Residency and his Vitreo-retinal Surgery Fellowship at the Alton Ochsner Medical Clinic and Hospital in New Orleans, LA. He then completed a Fellowship in Refractive Surgery at Ophthalmology Ltd.



Gregory D. Osmundson, MD

Dr. Osmundson is the region's only surgeon Fellowship-trained in glaucoma management. His

practice also includes cataract and implant surgery. Dr. Osmundson received his BA from South Dakota State University and his MD from the University of South Dakota School of Medicine. He completed his Ophthalmology Residency at the University of Missouri and his fellowship at the University of Utah.



Ashley R. Crouch, OD

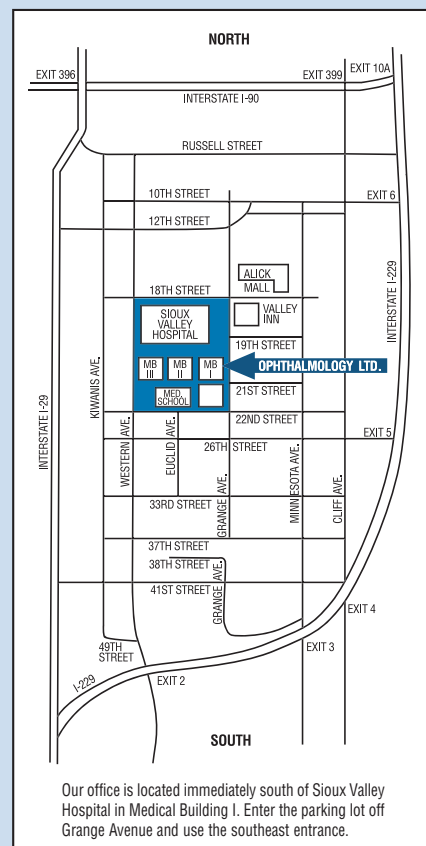
Dr. Crouch received her BS in biology and chemistry from the University of South Dakota and her

OD from the Illinois College of Optometry in Chicago.

Your Providers of Medical & Surgical Eye Care

At Ophthalmology LTD., you'll receive the highest quality of eye care with every treatment, routine or specialized, from our experienced staff of ophthalmic physicians. All of our surgeons are board-certified ophthalmologists and members of the American Academy of Ophthalmology and the American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery. They are also on staff at the University of South Dakota Medical School, Sioux Valley Hospital, McKennan Hospital, Royal F. Johnson Veterans Memorial Hospital and over 15 other medical facilities across the region.

For more information, go to
www.ophthalmologyltd.com.



Our office is located immediately south of Sioux Valley Hospital in Medical Building 1. Enter the parking lot off Grange Avenue and use the southeast entrance.

SATELLITE CLINICS



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