

## **Elmhurst Outpatient Surgery Center Offers Innovative Cataract and Glaucoma Treatment** *One of the first in state to offer ground-breaking stent that could prevent blindness*

[Elmhurst, IL] – [4/1/13] – Elmhurst Outpatient Surgery Center is one of the first healthcare facilities in Illinois to offer a new treatment option that reduces eye pressure for patients with both cataracts and glaucoma.

Ocular hypertension, or high eye pressure, can cause numerous vision problems. When pressure builds up in the eye, it can damage the optic nerve and result in the gradual loss of vision and could eventually lead to blindness.

The iStent® Trabecular Micro-Bypass Stent, produced by Glaukos Corp., Laguna Hills, Calif., is FDA-approved for use in conjunction with cataract surgery to reduce eye pressure in adult patients with mild-to-moderate open-angle glaucoma currently being treated with glaucoma medicine. In clinical trials, iStent has been shown to safely reduce eye pressure, which is the primary cause of open-angle glaucoma.

“This is great news for people who have both a cataract and glaucoma,” says Balaji Gupta, M.D. “The eye drops used to treat glaucoma can be difficult to administer and expensive. With iStent, many patients will need less medicine to control their eye pressure and some may not need prescription eye drops at all.”

Studies have shown that more than 90% of patients do not comply with their ocular medication dosing regimens and nearly 50% discontinue taking their medications before 6 months.

“This can be a serious problem. When pressure in the eye is out of control, it can increase the risk for permanent vision loss,” Gupta cautions. “We consider iStent an important advancement in protecting against vision loss for their glaucoma patients here at Elmhurst Outpatient Surgery Center.”

iStent is the smallest medical device ever approved by the FDA and is placed in a patient’s eye during cataract surgery. Implanting the iStent does not significantly extend the length of time the patient spends in surgery and has a similar safety profile to cataract surgery alone.

“It is so small you are unable to see or feel it after the procedure is done,” Gupta says. “Although you won’t even know iStent is there, it will be working to help reduce your eye pressure.”

For a list of surgeons offering the iStent procedure at EOSC, go to

| <http://www.eosc.org/iStent.html>.

### **About Elmhurst Outpatient Surgery Center**

Elmhurst Outpatient Surgery Center is a multi-specialty center performing more than 8,000 procedures annually in Elmhurst. Elmhurst Outpatient Surgery Center has been serving the communities within DuPage, Cook, Will, Kane and other surrounding counties since 1999. For more information, visit [www.eosc.org](http://www.eosc.org).

**About Glaukos Corporation**

Glaukos Corporation is a privately held ophthalmic company located in Laguna Hills, California, that is dedicated to researching and developing microtechnologies to improve glaucoma therapy. The company has developed the iStent Trabecular Micro-Bypass Stent, which is intended to improve natural physiological aqueous outflow and reduce intraocular pressure in open-angle glaucoma patients.

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