

“Laser Therapy for the Open Angle Glaucoma’s: ALT & SLT”

Course Description:

The use of laser energy to treat open angle glaucoma has been used by optometric physicians in certain states for over a decade now. This interactive presentation will review and update these ophthalmic laser procedures. Indications, contraindications, risks, benefits, potential complications, pre- and post-operative management, and procedural techniques will be discussed regarding ALT and SLT.

Learning Objectives:

Why, and for what ocular conditions, are ophthalmic lasers indicated?

To review the outcomes and clinical relevance of the Glaucoma Laser Trial.

To become familiar with the indications, contraindications, treatment protocols, complications, and follow-up with argon laser trabeculoplasty (ALT).

To become familiar with the indications, contraindications, treatment protocols, complications, and follow-up with selective laser trabeculoplasty (SLT).

To become familiar with the indications, contraindications, treatment protocols, complications, and follow-up with endoscopic cyclophotocoagulation (ECP).

Course Outline:

1. Why do we use lasers?
 - a. Decreased Vision
 - b. Narrow angles/Angle Closure
 - c. POAG progression on max meds
 - d. Compliance issues
 - e. Cost issues
 - f. Convenience issues
 - g. Doctor preference
2. Laser Trabeculoplasty
 - a. Why it's done
 - b. Glaucoma laser trial
 - c. Laser Trabeculoplasty Indications
 - i. POAG
 - ii. NTG
 - iii. Pigmentary glaucoma
 - iv. Pseudoexfoliative glaucoma
 - v. Summary of predictors
 - d. Types of Trabeculoplasties
 - i. Argon Laser Trabeculoplasty (ALT)
 - ii. Selective Laser Trabeculoplasty (SLT)
3. Argon Laser Trabeculoplasty (ALT)

- a. Laser Trabeculoplasty
 - i. Indications, Contraindications
 - b. ALT mechanism of action
 - c. Pre-op exam components
 - i. Gonio
 - ii. IOP
 - d. Contraindications & Risks/Complications
 - i. IOP spike
 - ii. Inflammation
 - e. ALT procedure
 - i. Pre-op drops
 - ii. Laser settings
 - iii. Procedure tips
 - f. ALT post-op care
 - i. Pred Forte QID X 1 week
 - ii. Patient education
 - g. Outcomes/Effectiveness of ALT & SLT
4. Selective Laser Trabeculoplasty (SLT)
- a. SLT mechanism of action
 - i. Thermalysis (Thermal Relaxation Time)
 - b. Pre-op exam components
 - c. Contraindications & Risks/Complications

- i. Narrow angles, Neovascular glaucoma, Inflammatory glaucoma
 - ii. IOP spike
 - iii. Inflammation
 - d. SLT procedure
 - i. Pre-op drops
 - ii. Laser settings
 - iii. Lens selection
 - iv. Procedure tips
 - v. Comparison to ALT
 - e. SLT post-op care
 - i. Post-op drops (NSAID only if needed)
 - f. Outcomes/Effectiveness of ALT & SLT
 - g. Reimbursement/Global period for ALT & SLT
- 5. Endoscopic cyclophotocoagulation (ECP)
 - a. ECP mechanism of action
 - b. Advantages
 - c. Disadvantages
 - d. Pre-op
 - e. Post-op care
 - i. Identical to cataract surgery
 - f. Video showing procedure