

REFRACTIVE SURGERY NEWS

WWW.DRSHER.COM

LASER SURGERY APPROVED FOR MILITARY PERSONNEL

Office Hours

Monday thru Friday

8:00 am—5:00 pm

Information / Appointment Line:

612-338-4861 or

1-888-448-3177

The U. S. Navy has been conducting research on laser refractive surgery since 1993, to determine if the procedures would be beneficial to combat troops. Since then, over 17,000 troops have received the surgery, at first only in the Navy, and later in all three branches.

Two years ago, the U.S. Congress authorized a program for thousands of soldiers, sailors and airmen to receive laser eye surgery, to improve combat readiness and performance. It is estimated that up to 40% of military personnel require corrective lenses, which

can interfere with such tasks as parachuting, diving and even with wearing a gas mask.

Most of those who have undergone the procedure are aviators and Special Forces troops; those with special combat needs.

Most Naval airmen and frogmen undergoing surgery have had photo-refractive keratectomy (PRK), rather than LASIK. The Air Force only offers PRK. PRK was the first laser vision correction surgery approved by the F.D.A., in 1995, with LASIK approval coming several years later.

HAPPY PATIENTS, GRATEFUL FAMILIES!

We Were Concerned For His Safety...

"We have been meaning to write and thank you once again for your gift to our son Ben of corrected vision. We had wanted our son to have his vision corrected before deploying to Iraq with the marines. We were concerned for his safety in the event of adverse circumstances there. Our worst fears were realized the night of October 8th when his vehicle hit a roadside bomb in Ramadi and was ambushed. Although he was seriously wounded, he survived and should make a full recovery. We were so thankful he did not have to deal with the potential loss of glasses or contacts, which could have been fatal. We thank you for your generosity toward our son and the excellent care he received from you and your staff." ~ *Mark and Laurie, Minnetrista*

You Have Changed My Life...

"Thanks you so much for restoring my eyesight. You have changed my life and I am grateful." ~ *Karen C, Minneapolis*

This is a dream come true...

"How lucky am I to have found not only "the best" eye surgeon—but the nicest caring man. I am writing this without the aid of glasses—the first for many years—this is just a dream come true— as life has been so difficult being spectacle reliant—but not anymore—again a huge, massive thank you!" ~ *Margaret, Northumberland, England*

REFRACTIVE SURGERY NEWS

FREE EYE SURGERY FOR U.S. TROOPS IN COMBAT ZONES

For the last two years, Dr. Sher has been performing laser vision correction surgery free of charge for U.S. troops going to combat zones in Iraq and Afghanistan. Dr. Sher has also made arrangements with the Phillips Eye Institute, which has waived its normal facility fee, and the VISX laser company, which has provided free laser cards, so that these troops can have life-changing and potentially life-saving surgery to improve their vision without any charge.

The Navy, Air Force and

Marines do not allow standard LASIK surgery, as they are concerned about the stability of the surgical flap under combat conditions, but do allow Advanced Surface Ablation procedures, such as PRK, which uses the same laser as LASIK, but does not involve any incisions being made on the eye. (The Army has a waiting list for laser surgery and troops may not reach the top of it before being deployed. National Guard and Reserve troops must pay for any surgery out of their own pockets.)

Contact lenses are not recommended in combat

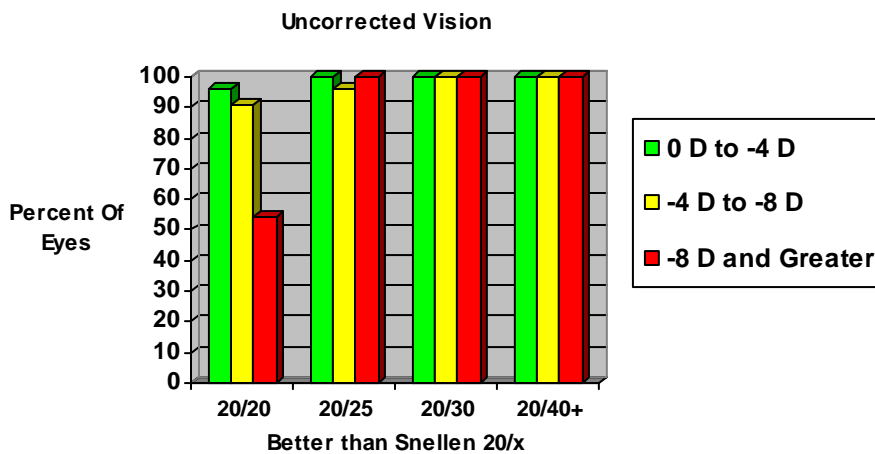
zones, and can be a liability in sandy, dirty environments, especially with no clean water or facilities. They can actually be hazardous under conditions of smoke or fumes. Glasses often do not fit under gas masks or night-vision goggles, and can become scratched, broken or lost under combat conditions.

Dr. Sher is pleased to be able to help these troops in recognition of their service. He hopes this will be one less cause for concern when they are deployed in war zones.

“Contact lenses are not recommended in combat zones, and can be a liability...”

LATEST RESULTS FOR ADVANCED SURFACE ABLATION (PRK)

With the latest advanced surface ablation technology, Dr. Sher's patients have achieved great post operative results. At three months after surgery (graph below) the statistics show remarkable change in these patients' vision. Many of these results can be expected to improve even further at 6 months post-op. The table below shows a series of eyes undergoing Advanced Surface Ablation (PRK) in the last year and followed at least three months. They are divided into three groups based on their pre-operative refractions, expressed in diopters.



Uncorrected Vision					
Pre-Op MR	Eyes Treated	20/20 or better	20/25 or better	20/30 or better	20/40 or better
0 to -4.00	81	96%	100%	100%	100%
-4.01 to -8.00	73	91%	97%	100%	100%
over -8.01	13	54%	100%	100%	100%
Total	167	90%	99%	100%	100%

We're on the Web!
www.drsher.com



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