

# TAUBER EYE CENTER Focus on Vision

## Clinical Research – Discovering Better Solutions for Patients' Problems

At Tauber Eye Center, we are committed to do all we can to provide compassionate, state-of-the-art care for our patients. Dr. Tauber has been a Principal Investigator in studies of new medications and new surgeries for over 20 years, and serves on several Advisory Boards working with major pharmaceutical companies helping to develop new answers for our patients' needs. We hope to continue to offer the option of participating in such studies to those of our patients who may benefit from them. Some of the major areas of our research are highlighted here:

#### DRY EYE DISEASE

Dr. Tauber helped pioneer the first FDA-approved medication for treating dry eye — Restasis. From writing the first study protocol in 1988, to serving as investigator in five nationwide, multicenter studies, to years of involvement with scientific advisory boards, Dr. Tauber invested 15 years of effort until April 2003, when the FDA approved Restasis for the treatment of dry eye. We continue to study new medications to bring even more relief to those who suffer from this chronic disease. Dr. Tauber teaches a two hour course on Advanced Dry Eye Treatment every year at the national ophthalmology convention, attended by doctors from all across the US.

#### ADVANCED CORNEAL TRANSPLANTS

In the past 5 years, we have witnessed a transformation from full-thickness corneal transplantation to "selective" transplantation, in which only the diseased portion of a patient's cornea is replaced. Whether the front portion (Anterior lamellar transplant) or the deeper portion (DSEK), we are now able to achieve vision improvement in much shorter time following surgery. Dr. Tauber is very involved in continued advancements of these surgical methods, including ways to insert a transplant without folding (which damages the delicate donor cornea).

### BLEPHARITIS (MEIBOMIAN GLAND DISEASE)

Eyelid disease is the most under-recognized, under-treated condition that brings patients to seek help for irritative symptoms including dry eye complaints. Often, clogged meibomian glands (eyelid oil glands) are the source of the problem. Dr. Tauber was invited to serve as one of only 50 international experts, who worked for over two years preparing a report that is widely hailed as the encyclopedic collection of the world's knowledge about this disease. Dr. Tauber was the lead author and co-chair of the Treatment Report of the "International Workshop on Meibomian Gland Dysfunction" that was published in March 2011. Dr. Tauber is currently studying how best to use meibomian gland probing to relieve symptoms of this common disease.



Dr. Joseph Tauber specializes in anterior segment surgery, corneal transplantation, the treatment of corneal and external diseases and laser vision correction procedures. A board-certified ophthalmologist, Dr. Tauber received his doctorate from Harvard Medical School, his training in internal medicine at Beth Israel Hospital and in ophthalmology at Tufts-New England Medical Center, all located in Boston, Massachusetts. Dr. Tauber enhanced his medical education with two years of ocular immunology and corneal and external disease fellowship training at the Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary. Dr. Tauber has been performing laser vision correction surgery since 1989, as one of the first ophthalmologists in the U.S. doing these surgeries.

Dr. Tauber has been a principal investigator in over 70 research studies of high-risk corneal transplantation, inflammation and allergic eye diseases, corneal infectious diseases and numerous studies related to dry eye syndrome. He is a member of the American Academy of Ophthalmology, and the Medical Director of the Heartland Lions Eye Bank, which provides corneas for transplant surgeons around the US and internationally. Dr. Tauber has written six book chapters and over 50 articles for such prestigious medical journals as Ophthalmology, Investigative Ophthalmology and Visual Science, Journal of Cataract and Refractive Surgery and Cornea.



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