

## WHAT IS GLAUCOMA?

Glaucoma is a group of diseases of the eye that left untreated can impair vision and even cause blindness.

A major risk factor for glaucoma is increased eye pressure that occurs when fluid (aqueous) in the eye (A) – used to transport important nutrients to the lens – accumulates and cannot drain naturally.

Over time the trapped fluid builds up, causing pressure in the eye, which can damage the optic nerve and destroy vision.

The first sign of glaucoma is often loss of peripheral or side vision. Untreated glaucoma can lead to tunnel vision (B), and eventually can cause total blindness.

## WHAT IS THE iSTENT®?

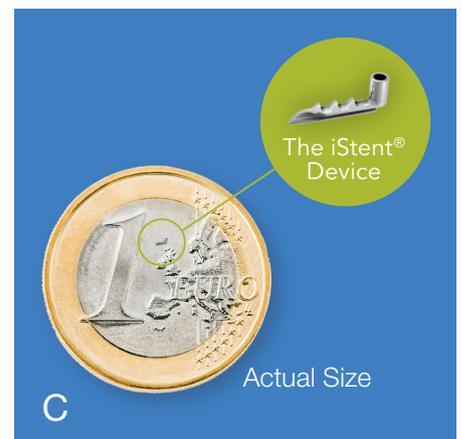
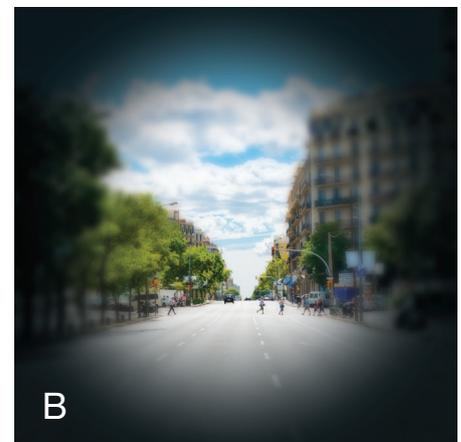
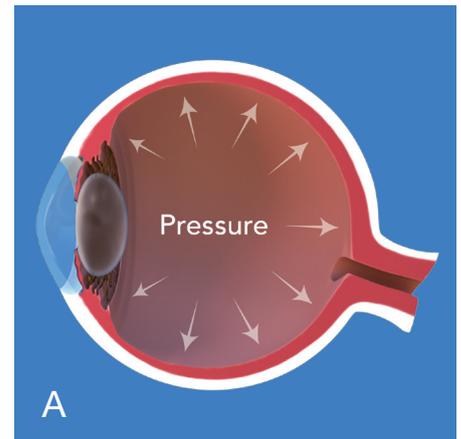
iStent is one of the smallest medical implants known to be implanted in the human body. iStent measures just 1mm long and is made of titanium (C).

## WHO IS SUITABLE FOR THE iSTENT?

The iStent Trabecular Micro-Bypass System is designed to reduce intraocular pressure safely and effectively in patients diagnosed with primary open-angle glaucoma, pseudo-exfoliative glaucoma or pigmentary glaucoma.

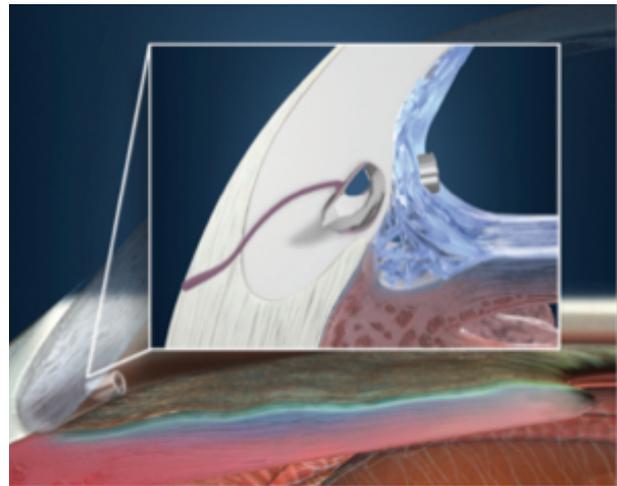
Studies have shown the device to be safe and effective when implanted in combination with cataract surgery, or as a stand-alone procedure, in those patients who require intraocular pressure reduction and/or would benefit from glaucoma medication reduction.<sup>1</sup>

The device may also be implanted in patients who continue to have elevated intraocular pressure despite prior treatment with glaucoma medications and conventional glaucoma surgery.



## HOW DOES IT WORK?

Implanted at the time of cataract surgery, or in a separate procedure, iStent is designed to create a bypass between the front part of the eye and its natural drainage pathway to increase the flow of fluid. By creating a permanent bypass through the primary blockage site (trabecular meshwork), iStent is designed to a) improve the eye's natural fluid outflow to safely lower intraocular pressure, and b) work continuously to improve the natural flow of fluid in the eye.



## WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF IMPLANTING AN iSTENT?

The iStent Trabecular Micro-Bypass System is designed to lower eye pressure and reduce the risk of vision loss from glaucoma. It may also reduce or remove the number of glaucoma eye drops you might be using now.

Recent studies have shown that 79% of patients implanted with iStent had eye pressure of  $\leq 16$ mmHg and 74% were medication free after 3 years<sup>1</sup>.

## WHAT DOES THE OPERATION INVOLVE?

The operation is usually performed under a local anaesthetic, meaning that you are awake but your eye is numb so you will not feel anything.

The iStent Trabecular Micro-Bypass System is implanted through a small, self-sealing incision in the clear part of the eye (cornea) using a small inserter, and can be performed at the same time as a cataract surgery or by itself. Once implanted, the iStent Trabecular Micro-Bypass System can work immediately.

At the end of the procedure, your operated eye will be covered with a pad and/or protective shield, which you might also be instructed to wear at night for a few days as a precautionary safety measure to protect your eye.

iStent Trabecular Micro-Bypass System surgery and cataract surgery is usually completed as a day case, meaning that you should be able to go home the same day, but you will not be able to drive so you are advised to have someone collect you from the hospital/clinic.

You should be examined in the clinic the day after surgery.

## HOW SOON WILL I RECOVER?

Immediately after the procedure your vision in the operated eye might be blurry for one to two weeks, and your eye might be slightly bloodshot for a few days.

You will be prescribed antibiotic and anti-inflammatory eye drops to prevent infection and inflammation, which you should take as prescribed.

Your eye doctor will inform you if or when you can stop taking any glaucoma eye drops. Do not stop taking your drops in either eye, unless specifically instructed to do so by your eye doctor.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

The iStent is indicated to reduce eye pressure in patients diagnosed with primary open-angle glaucoma, pseudoexfoliative glaucoma, or pigmentary glaucoma. It can be implanted as a standalone surgery or in combination with cataract surgery. The iStent can also be implanted in patients who would benefit from fewer eye drops or who have previously had glaucoma surgery. The iStent should not be used to treat those with closed-angle glaucoma, glaucoma due to new eye vessels, or in patients with thyroid eye disease, certain eye tumors or nerve conditions. After iStent implantation, some patients have experienced inflammation and swelling of the eye, decreased vision sharpness and cloudiness, and stent obstruction. Please refer to the iStent product labeling for additional safety information, or visit [Glaukos.com](http://Glaukos.com). iStent can only be sold by, or ordered by a physician. Please consult your ophthalmologist to see if iStent is right for you.

## DEFINITION OF EYE WORDS

**Aqueous:** A clear fluid that circulates inside the front portion of the eye.

**Cataract:** A clouding of the lens in the eye which leads to a decrease in vision.

**Cornea:** A clear, dome-shaped window at the front of the eye.

**Intraocular pressure:** The fluid pressure inside the eye.

**Iris:** The coloured part of the eye that controls the size of the pupil.

**Glaucoma:** A condition that damages the optic nerve of the eye, often associated with high eye pressure.

**Optic Nerve:** Transmits visual information from the retina to the brain.

**Pupil:** The opening at the centre of the iris.

**Schlemm's Canal:** A circular canal into which aqueous drains after passing through the trabecular meshwork.

**Trabecular Meshwork:** A sieve-like meshwork through which aqueous drains before entering Schlemm's canal.

### REFERENCES:

1. Neuhann TH. Trabecular micro-bypass stent implantation during small incision cataract surgery for open-angle glaucoma or ocular hypertension: long-term results. *J Cataract Refract Surg*. 2015; 41:2664-2671.



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