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Hong Kong Sanatorium & Hospital Offers Comprehensive Presbyopia Treatment

Introducing New Technology to Treat Patients with Both Cataract and Presbyopia

(23 March 2010, Hong Kong) According to the latest statistics, 43% people in Hong Kong are suffering from presbyopia (loss of near and intermediate vision), and the number is expected to further increase due to the aging population. To better serve patients' needs, Hong Kong Sanatorium & Hospital (HKSH) offers comprehensive presbyopia treatment that doctors can choose the most appropriate treatment for patients based on their requirements.

- **Refractive Surgery on Cornea** Laser Refractive Surgery or Implantation of Intra-Corneal Implant :
 - Laser Refractive Surgery on cornea can correct myopia, hyperopia and presbyopia problems. It is a safe option, but it may not completely correct the underlying problem and the patient's presbyopia may progress again, requiring another treatment.
 - Implantation of Intra-Corneal Implant is safe but not as effective as Lens Exchange.
- Lens Exchange is the most thorough treatment among all, which removes the patient's lens and implants an IOL. Patients can choose between Monofocal IOL, Multifocal IOL and the new Accommodating IOL.
 - Monofocal IOL: Can only deliver improved vision at one distance (usually far) and thus patients will probably need to wear glasses for nearer and intermediate vision after surgery.
 - Multifocal IOL: Project multiple images, requiring patients' brain to adjust. Some patients may have difficulty adjusting to the new vision. Besides, intermediate vision can be weaker because the technology is designed mainly for near and distance vision. Patients may experience halos and glares problems.



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■ Accommodating IOL: It was modelled after the human eye. Like the natural lens, it uses the eye muscle to flex and accommodate in order to focus on objects in the environment at all distances.

On the other hand, the Accommodating IOL used by HKSH is the only one approved by both the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the European Medicines Agency (EMEA). It can also treat cataract and presbyopia at the same time. After surgery, patients will reduce or eliminate their dependence on glasses. According to the World Health Organization, almost half of the world's blindness cases are related to cataract. As people now on average have a longer life span, the number of cataract cases is expected to increase, which makes Accommodating IOL a more convenient option for patients.

Clinical researches from HKSH have shown that significantly more patients implanted with Accommodating IOL (88.4%) could see better at all distances than patients implanted with a standard IOL. Also, most patients have continued to report excellent vision seven years after implantation with Accommodating IOL. Up to now, more than 60 patients in Hong Kong and over 200,000 patients around the world have implanted with Accommodating IOL.

Dr. Ivan Chen, Director of Cataract Surgery Centre, HKSH, said, "In the past, cataract surgery was able to treat cataracts and reduce some refractive errors. Patients would need to wear glasses for some of their daily activities, such as reading and driving. But with the newest accommodating intraocular lens, patients can reduce or eliminate the need of glasses, enhancing their quality of life."

Dr. John Chang, Director of Guy Hugh Chan Refractive Surgery Centre, HKSH, also added, "The number of presbyopia cases is increasing now due to the aging population. Therefore HKSH offers comprehensive presbyopia treatment and introduces new technology from time to time in order to meet patients' needs with the best treatment."

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