

## Emory Vision introduces the latest LASIK technology

Emory Vision, the LASIK service of Emory Eye Center, now offers the very latest equipment available to make LASIK procedures more comfortable and convenient for patients.

The Zeiss VisuMax femtosecond laser uses groundbreaking technology to give surgeons outstanding cutting precision and speed while still being gentle to the patient. Emory Vision is the first academic medical center-affiliated facility in the state to have the VisuMax laser.

During a LASIK procedure, the surgeon improves the patient's vision by using a laser to permanently change the shape of the cornea (the clear covering on the front of the eye). Older LASIK equipment required the surgeon to flatten the cornea in order to make the necessary cuts. The ideal outcome was a nice curved line when the cornea returned to its natural shape, but the results could vary and sometimes lead to visual distortion.

The VisuMax is built so the surgeon can make a three-dimensional, curved incision along the cornea's natural surface instead



John Kim, MD, performs a LASIK procedure at the Emory St. Joseph's clinic.


of flattening it. Incisions have unsurpassed accuracy, down to the micron level (as a comparison, a credit card is about 500 microns thick).

The equipment is further enhanced by including three different sizes of contact glasses (the guides to cut the corneal flaps) to ensure a better fit to the patient's cornea.

"The first step of the LASIK procedure involves creating a flap incision in the cornea," explains John Kim, MD, assistant professor of ophthalmology and director of cornea and refractive services at Emory Eye Center. "Previously available lasers required very high pressures to flatten the cornea to make

the incision. This regularly caused the patient's vision to briefly 'black out' during the procedure. The new VisuMax laser requires less pressure so there is less discomfort for the patient and no loss of vision during the procedure."

Another bonus for the patient and surgeon is a shorter procedure time because of a laser pulse frequency of 500 kHz.

Emory Vision is located at Emory Saint Joseph's Hospital in Atlanta (5671 Peachtree Dunwoody Road, Doctor's Center Building #3, Suite 400). Call 404-778-2SEE (2733) to schedule a free LASIK consultation. 



## Hospital Tower expansion continues

**Anyone visiting Emory Eye Center over the past two years has stepped to the edge of a construction zone, thanks to the building-out of Emory University Hospital's new tower.** But the end is in sight: the new tower is scheduled to welcome patients later in 2017.

The tower will include 232 patient beds, with 40 designated for critical care. Cancer and transplant (bone marrow, kidney, liver, and pancreas) patient care units, diagnostic and treatment spaces, radiology, and an anesthesia pre-operative clinic are also part of the plan. A retail pharmacy and the Radiance Boutique at Winship Cancer Institute will relocate to the tower. An additional food venue will offer multiple dining options for patients, visitors and staff.

The tower is nine stories high and encompasses 450,000 square feet, plus has a 500-space underground parking area.

A two-tiered pedestrian bridge connects the tower to the original hospital building, Emory Clinics A and B, and Winship. It accesses Emory Eye Center on the second floor of Clinic B. 