

PATIENT INFORMATION.....

Dry Eye problems caused by Meibomian Gland Dysfunction (MGD) – a new therapy using the TearScience® System (LipiView®, MGE and LipiFlow®)

Dear Patient

Inactive or poorly functioning meibomian glands (caused by blockage of the gland openings on the eyelids) is the most common cause of the group of conditions that are collectively referred to as “Dry Eye”.

Traditionally, dry eye problems caused by poorly functioning meibomian glands have been treated by a number of methods including locally applied drops, gels or ointments, as well as the use of regular eyelid hygiene or implants. In addition, steroids and antibiotics may be used to treat irritation and infection.

Until recently, no treatment has been available that has any long-term effect.

The **TearScience® System** is a new and innovative method of diagnosing and treating the condition. So far, studies have shown it to deliver an improvement in meibomian gland function and alleviate dry eye symptoms in 80% of cases.

The method is ISO and CE-certified and in August 2011 was cleared for sale in the United States by the US Food and Drug Administration as a new medical treatment.

The TearScience® System consists of three different components:

- 1** **LipiView®**, an interferometer for measuring the thickness of the tear film lipid layer
- 2** The **Meibomian Gland Evaluator (MGE)**, that allows both qualitative and quantitative assessment of meibomian gland function
- 3** The **LipiFlow® System**, an electrical device that simultaneously warms the inner surface of the lid while massaging the outside