

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Williamson Eye Center's Dr. Charles Williamson to Implant the First Visian Toric Implantable Contact Lens in Louisiana, an Innovative Solution to Myopia and Astigmatism

Baton Rouge, Louisiana, November 26, 2018 – Dr. Charles Williamson, Medical Director at Williamson Eye Center, will be the first in Louisiana to provide a new solution for patients with moderate to high levels of myopia and astigmatism in one easy procedure following FDA approval of STAAR Surgical's Visian Toric ICL. On November 27, 2018, the first patient in Louisiana will receive this innovative new treatment.

The Visian Toric ICL is an innovative lens from STAAR Surgical which is placed behind the iris and in front of the eye's crystalline lens to correct vision. This method works with the eye to not only restore clear and sharp vision^{1,2,3} but also provide UV protection and excellent night vision⁴.

The Visian Toric ICL's implantation eliminates multiple surgical procedures by correcting astigmatism and myopia simultaneously⁵. In a procedure that takes less than 30 minutes, Visian Toric ICL lets doctors treat more types of patients with higher levels of astigmatism as well as myopia while preserving the corneal structure of the eye.

"FDA's approval of STAAR's Visian Toric ICL in the U.S. provides an exciting treatment option for myopic patients with astigmatism in search of visual freedom. We are thrilled to be able to offer this lens in the United States and look forward to officially making the Visian Toric ICL available to U.S. surgeons for their patients," said Caren Mason, STAAR Surgical Company President & CEO.

FDA approval was based on results from the Visian Toric ICL clinical study which reported 98.4% of patients would have the Visian Toric ICL surgery again. The data also showed that eyes implanted with the Visian Toric ICL maintained rotational stability⁶.

"I see patients who struggle with their eyesight every day." Dr. Charles Williamson states. "I'm thrilled that there's a lens-based solution now available to help US patients suffering from both astigmatism and myopia. The Visian Toric ICL allows me to improve patients' lives with one easy-to-implant lens."

¹¹ Sanders D, Vukich JA. Comparison of implantable collamer lens (ICL) and laser assisted in situ keratomileusis (LASIK) for Low Myopia. *Cornea*. 2006 Dec; 25(10): 1139-46

²² Shin, JY, Ahn, H, Seo, KY, Kim, EK, Kim, TK. Comparison of higher order aberrations after implantable collamer lens implantation and wavefront-guided lasek in high myopia. *J Refract Surg*. 2012; 28(2): 106-111

³³ Igarashi, A, Kamiya, K, Shimizu, K, Komatsu, M. Visual Performance after implantable collamer lens implantation and wavefront-guided laser in situ keratomileusis for high myopia. *Am J Ophthalmol*. 2009

⁴⁴ Parkhurst, G. A prospective comparison of phakic collamer lenses and wavefront optimized laser-assisted in situ keratomileusis for correction of myopia. *Clinical Ophthalmology* 2016, 10:1209-1215

⁵⁵ Alfonso, J, et al. Comparison of visual and refractive results of Toric Implantable Collamer Lens with bioptics for myopic astigmatism. *Graefes Arch Clin Exp Ophthalmol* (2013) 251:967-975

⁶⁶ STAAR Surgical Visian Toric Implantable Collamer Lens PMA Supplement P030016 Ophthalmic Devices Advisory Panel, March 14, 2014

For more information about *Williamson Eye Center* and our expertise in Visian Toric ICL implantation visit www.williamsoneye.com.

Visit <https://staar.com/products/visian-icl> to find out more about the Visian Toric ICL.

About Williamson Eye Center

The Williamson Eye Center, one of the South's largest and most prestigious eye centers, has earned a reputation over the years not only for excellent patient care, but for major contributions to research development in cataract and refractive surgery, glaucoma treatment and implantable lenses for decades. The Williamson Eye Center offers the convenience of four locations, an outpatient surgery center, a laser vision correction center, 2 cosmetic center locations, and 3 Optical, as well as the support of 12 physicians, 4 physician assistants and over 100 employees.