

Press Release

More Safety during LASIK Surgery **ESIRIS Excimer laser now available with online pachymetry**

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Online pachymetry continuously measures the corneal thickness during refractive corneal surgery and offers therewith a significant improvement in treatment safety for both patient and surgeon. SCHWIND eye-tech-solutions has now integrated into its ESIRIS excimer laser the high-resolution and contact-free diagnostic system, based on the optical measurement principle of "Optical Coherence Tomography" (OCT), from the Heidelberg Engineering company, Germany. Effective immediately, ophthalmologic surgeons who are already ESIRIS users can easily have their laser upgraded. For new deliveries, online pachymetry can be optionally integrated.

The system delivers decisive information regarding changes in corneal thickness during the refractive procedure. At the same time, the central corneal thickness, the flap thickness after the microkeratome incision, as well as – simultaneous with the laser ablation – the already-ablated volume and the remaining thickness of the cornea can be measured. Possible biomechanical changes in the corneal tissue through compression or dehydration are also recognized. The results of the measurement can be documented and analyzed with the aid of a databank function. An additional treatment screen on the ESIRIS enables checking of both therapy and pachymetric data at a glance.

page 2

Online pachymetry has already proven itself in the clinical workaday routine. In a study conducted by Dr. Christopher Wirbelauer, Germany, 32 patients were treated with the ESIRIS excimer laser utilizing the OCT-Technology. The results, published in the "Journal of Cataract and Refractive Surgery" (12/2004), confirm that online pachymetry decisively contributes to the improvement of quality assurance during LASIK.

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