

PRESS RELEASE



TO: Editor in Charge
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For Immediate Release

Photo Attached



July is Dry Eye Awareness Month

(Honolulu, Hawaii) July 15, 2015 – Millions of Americans suffer from dry eye disease and it's one of the most common reasons people visit their eye care professional. Dry eye disease often goes undiagnosed and can really complicate a person's daily activities. Discomfort and pain from dry eye can lead to ulcers, scarring of the cornea, and even vision loss if left untreated.

In 2013, Hawaiian Eye Center opened Dry Eye Clinics at their offices to offer the most advanced treatments to the many local residents who have dry eye. Evaporative dry eye is the most common form of the disease, affecting nearly 86 percent of dry eye sufferers.

"Hawaiian Eye was one of the first in the state to introduce LipiFlow — the leading in-office diagnostic and treatment system for evaporative dry eye," said Christopher Tortora, M.D., Medical Director of Hawaiian Eye Center. "Symptoms of dry eye include itchiness, burning, dryness, soreness, irritation, redness, grittiness and eye fatigue. Tearing and blurring when using the computer or when air is blowing on the eyes are other common symptoms."

The Dry Eye Clinics offer the following services:

- TearLab osmolarity testing: Rapid test that quickly and easily screens patients for high tear osmolarity — high levels of salt content in the tear film of the eye — which is an indicator of dry eye disease.
- Meibomium gland expression and assessment: Combination of examination techniques and diagnostic testing are used to differentiate between meibomian gland disease and aqueous deficiency dry eye — lack of the oily vs. watery component of the tear film — so that an appropriate treatment plan can be administered.
- LipiView diagnostic testing by Tear Science: High resolution imaging offers the most comprehensive test available to assess tear film, allowing for specific diagnoses from poor blink to poor quality meibomian secretions.
- LipiFlow Thermal Pulsation by Tear Science: Patients who suffer from evaporative dry eye disease have localized heat therapy and gentle pressure applied to the eyelids in a short 12 minute treatment, which helps to unclog meibomian oil glands and improve tear quality and overall eye comfort.

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The diagnostic testing and treatments provided are state-of-the-art. Those interested in learning more about dry eye and the services provided at the Hawaiian Eye Center's Dry Eye Clinics can call 888-621-2020 or visit HawaiianEye.com.

Christopher Tortora, M.D., and Steven Rhee, D.O., are board-certified ophthalmologists at Hawaiian Eye Center. Dr. Tortora also hosts "The Hawaiian Eye Show," a weekly informational radio program about healthy vision broadcast live every Saturday at 8 a.m. on KHVH 830 AM/rebroadcast at 9 p.m. on KHBZ 990 AM. Hawaiian Eye Center's dedicated doctors and support staff are committed to educating the public about the importance of preventative eye care. To learn more about a variety of eye health issues, please call 621-8448 or visit HawaiianEye.com and Facebook.com/HawaiianEyeCenter, where "life has never looked better."

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