

## **Don't Let Dry Eye Derail Your Vision**

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Approximately 4 million cataract surgeries are performed annually in the US and 7 million in the  $EU^1$ . Also, around 0.8 million refractive surgeries are performed annually in the  $US^2$  and 0.75 - 1.1 million in the  $EU^3$ .

Dry eye syndrome (DES) can significantly impact the success of cataract and refractive surgeries and as a result, the American Academy of Ophthalmology (AAO) recognizes the importance of addressing DES before and after cataract and refractive surgeries.

Prioritizing DES management can:

- Reduce Post-Operative Discomfort: Minimize dryness, irritation, and other bothersome symptoms.
- Enhance Visual Outcomes: Achieve clearer, more stable vision by optimizing the ocular surface.
- Minimize the Risk of Complications: Prevent potential issues like corneal damage and infection.

In a recent clinical study<sup>4</sup>, the **TeaRx<sup>TM</sup> Dry eye test (DiagnosTear)** was shown to be effective in assessment of DES, differentiation between severe and non-severe cases, determination of severe Meibomian Gland Dysfunction (MGD), the leading cause of evaporative DES, and in prediction of the clinical outcome of Cyclosporine A, a commonly used topical immunomodulatory therapy for DES.

These features potentially make  $TeaRx^{TM}$ , the diagnostic tool of choice for assessment of DES before and after cataract or refractive surgeries, as it may offer critical information addressing the following AAO guidelines<sup>5</sup>.

## **Pre-Operative Evaluation**

- **Thorough Assessment:** Patients considering these procedures should undergo a comprehensive eye exam to identify any pre-existing DES conditions.
- **Custom Treatment Plans:** Based on the severity of DES signs and symptoms, personalized treatment plans may be recommended to optimize the ocular surface before surgery.

## Post-Operative Care

- **Enhanced Recovery:** After surgery, close monitoring is essential to detect and address any potential DES signs and symptoms that may arise.
- **Tailored Therapies:** A range of treatment options, including artificial tears, eyelid hygiene, and prescription medications, may be employed to alleviate dryness and promote healing.
- **Long-Term Management:** In some cases, ongoing management of DES may be necessary to maintain optimal visual outcomes and comfort.
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- 2. <a href="https://www.nvisioncenters.com/laser-surgery/lasik-each-year/">https://www.nvisioncenters.com/laser-surgery/lasik-each-year/</a>
- 3. Number of LASIK surgeries in Europe 2004-2020 <a href="https://www.statista.com/statistics/278481/number-of-lasik-surgeries-in-the-us">https://www.statista.com/statistics/278481/number-of-lasik-surgeries-in-the-us</a>
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