



**Local Surgeon(s) Among First to Use New Intraocular Lens for Cataract Patients
With and Without Presbyopia**

*Revolutionary Apodized Diffractive Technology Provides a High Level of Freedom from
Glasses*

BOSTON, MA – November 1, 2005 – A revolutionary advance in cataract surgery will be introduced this month by Dr. Helen K. Wu, Dr. Michael H Goldstein, Dr Joel Reisman and Dr. Cynthia Mattox at the Tufts-New England Eye Center in Boston. AcrySof[®] ReSTOR[®] IOL is the first and only apodized diffractive intraocular lens (IOL) for cataract patients with and without presbyopia. The AcrySof[®] ReSTOR[®] IOL, from Alcon, Inc., provides patients with a full range of quality vision (near, intermediate and distance), and greatly reduces reliance on glasses. In clinical trials, 80 percent of patients reported “never” wearing reading glasses or bifocals following bilateral cataract surgery.

The vast majority of patients who undergo cataract surgery today receive monofocal lenses, which typically require them to use reading glasses or bifocals for near vision following surgery.

“With the new AcrySof[®] ReSTOR[®] IOL, patients have the potential to reduce their reliance on glasses,” said Helen K. Wu, M.D. “This new lens is a breakthrough in cataract surgery that we are proud to offer our patients.”

AcrySof[®] ReSTOR[®] is a foldable IOL and represents breakthrough technology because of its unique, patented optic design, which allows patients to experience the highest level of freedom from glasses ever achieved in IOL clinical trials. The AcrySof[®] ReSTOR[®] IOL uses a combination of three complementary technologies: apodization, diffraction and refraction, to allow patients to experience a full range of high quality vision without the need for reading glasses or bifocals. This range of vision is achieved without glasses through the optical properties of the IOL. The end benefit for patients is an increased range of quality vision that results in a high level of spectacle freedom. Alcon patented the application of apodization technology to an IOL, making AcrySof[®] ReSTOR[®] the first and only apodized diffractive IOL.

The AcrySof® ReSTOR® IOL received approval by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration in March 2005. Clinical trials were conducted in the United States and Europe to establish the safety and effectiveness of the AcrySof® ReSTOR® IOL. A total of 566 patients received the AcrySof® ReSTOR® lens in clinical trials and had a mean age of 68 years.

Since its introduction outside the U.S. in 2003, more than 11,000 AcrySof® ReSTOR® IOLs have been implanted in patients by more than 1,000 surgeons in Europe and other countries. More than 500 ophthalmic surgeons outside of the U.S. have been trained to implant the AcrySof® ReSTOR® lens and thousands of lenses have already been successfully implanted.

A cataract is a “clouding” of the eye’s natural lens, which results in blurred or defocused vision. According to a recent article published in the *Archives of Ophthalmology*, more than 20 million adults in the U.S. have developed cataracts making it the number one cause of poor vision in the United States. While not all cataracts require surgery, nearly 3 million cataract procedures are annually performed in the U.S. Cataracts cannot be prevented and are the leading cause of treatable blindness worldwide. According to the National Eye Institute, the number of Americans with cataracts is expected to rise to over 30 million people by the year 2020.

About Tufts - New England Eye Center

New England Eye Center is located in the heart of Boston’s Theater district above the Wang Center and is affiliated with the Tufts New England Medical Center and Tufts University School of Medicine. New England Eye Center is a leading provider of Laser Vision Correction in Greater Boston and New England. The Eye Center offers the ReStore procedure along with Crystalens, LASIK, CK, PRK and other vision correction procedures. The staff includes Drs. Helen Wu, M.D., Joel Reisman, M.D., Cynthia Mattox, M.D. and Michael H Goldstein, M.D. all Board Certified surgeons. For more information about the New England Eye Center, go to www.neec.com or visit their Laser Vision Correction website at: www.mylasikdoc.com.

###

For information, contact:

William R. Sacco Director of Operations – Refractive Surgery

617-636-1055