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August 2017

South Palm Beach Edition - Monthly

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LAW OFFICE OF ANDREW CURTIS, ESQ

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Andrew Curtis is an attorney whose practice concentrates in the areas of trusts, estates, and elder law. He is a graduate of some of the top universities in the country. He devotes his time to estate planning for the middle class, charging moderate fees, and then getting referrals from happy clients.

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by Andrew M. Curtis, ESQ



TRUSTS ARE NOT JUST FOR THE WEALTHY



Perhaps the most common misconception among the general public concerning the areas of wills and trusts is the notion that if a couple owns less than \$5,000,000.00 in assets, that they don't need a revocable living trust. This is a false notion. For example, I recently had a fellow come to my office whose mother has just died. All she owned was a \$50,000.00 condo, and had a will, which read "I leave my condo to my child". What could be more simple and clearer than that? Well, believe it or not, the child had to go through probate before he could get the condo, and the legal fee was \$2,000.00. A revocable living trust could have avoided this.

Another reason for having a revocable living trust is to protect against incapacity. In the trust, you designate who would manage

your assets in the event,, let's say, you get Alzheimer's disease. Without a trust, court proceedings might well be necessary, and a stranger could even be designated by the court to manage your affairs.

Further, once the decision is made to have a trust, the trust can in effect allow you to "rule from the grave"! with your assets distributed the same way you would have done as if you were still alive. For example, most wills simply say that on a person's death that his or her children inherit equally. However, think about it – once your child inherits your money, he or she is completely free to leave it to whomever he or she wants, such as a boyfriend, spouse, or other non-blood relatives. So let's say your daughter dies 5 years after you, and leaves the inheritance she got from you to her husband. Even if you like her husband, this could prove



to be a bad result, because the husband could remarry and the new spouse could have children from a previous marriage, and now all of a sudden your hard earned money is going to support kids you never knew. Further, if you leave your assets to your son in a regular will, his wife could divorce him and take the money. A Solution is to leave you assets to your children in a lifetime trust. They could each use the money for their normal living, but would be protected, and upon death, the remaining assets would pass to the child's children, (your grandchildren), or if none, to the child's siblings, not to some stranger.

Another place where trusts are extremely useful is in second marriage situations. If you simply leave your assets to your new spouse, he or she is free to leave the assets to his or her children, and not to yours, once

you pass on. Instead, a trust could be used, so that your assets would be available to care for your spouse after you die, but upon the spouse's subsequent death, the assets would pass to your children, not theirs. Don't assume your spouse will, follow your wishes, because after you die, his or her relationship with your children could change with the passage of time.

Another use of a trust is to manage assets inherited by children who are not good with money. You could provide that the child would get only the income from his or her inheritance, for example.

Trusts can also be used to protect your children's inheritance in the event they go bankrupt, divorce, or face a lawsuit.. And for persons with handicapped children, a "supple-

mental needs trust" can be utilized, to make sure the government simply doesn't take the disabled child's, inheritance as reimbursement for government benefits, and to make sure the child does not lose such benefits.

Thus, there are many reasons why a trust may be advisable for even a person of modest means.

Andrew Curtis is an attorney whose practice concentrates in the areas of trusts, estates, and elder law. He is a graduate of some of the top universities in the country. He devotes his time to estate planning for the middle class, charging moderate fees, and then getting referrals from happy clients.

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Early Cancer Detection Saves Lives

The development of improved screening tests for various types of cancer means that physicians can now identify and diagnose cancer at an earlier stage, many times, before any symptoms are present. Early detection is important because when abnormal tissues or cancers are found early, they are easier to treat. Some screening methods are quite simple, such as skin cancer checks or breast self-examination, while others, such as certain genetic tests, are extremely sophisticated. Whether easy or more complicated, regular screenings for cancer have been shown to be effective in reducing the number of cancer deaths, according to the American Cancer Society (ACS).

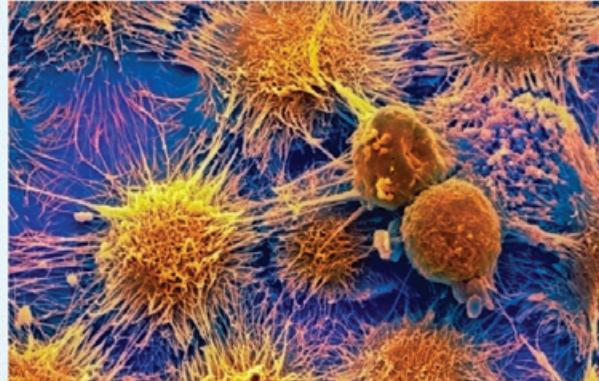
Recommended Cancer Screening Tests

Skin Cancer: Screening for skin cancer involves checking your skin and any moles, or having a doctor check them, for changes that could be signs of cancer. An annual skin check by a dermatologist or regular physician is recommended for those with a family history of skin cancer.

Breast Cancer: In addition to monthly self-examinations, the ACS recommends that, starting at age 40, all women should have annual screening mammograms; other health organizations call for mammograms every two years, starting at age 50, but stopping screening after age 75. Talk to your doctor about what is right for you, based on your own family health history and your cancer risk factors.

Cervical Cancer: An annual Pap test is advised for all women, beginning at age 21. Women from 21 to 29 should have a Pap test every three years. Beginning at age 30, ACS recommends a Pap test, combined with human papilloma virus (HPV) testing, every five years. Testing should continue until the age of 65. Following these guidelines can also increase the likelihood of finding pre-cancers, which can be treated to prevent cervical cancer from developing.

Colorectal Cancer: Colonoscopy screening for colorectal cancer should start at age 50, and be done every 10 years, unless recommended more often by your doctor, until age 75. This type of screening not only detects cancer early, but, in many cases, it can help to prevent cancer from developing, as it identifies polyps (abnormal, precancerous growths within the colon), which your doctor can remove.



Better screening techniques for cancer have helped decrease the incidence of cancer deaths.

Lung Cancer: Low Dose CT scanning is recommended for some people who are at higher risk for lung cancer. This group includes adults, ages 55 to 80, who have a 30 pack-year smoking history and who currently smoke, or have quit within the past 15 years. To determine a pack-year score, multiply the number of packs smoked per day by the number of years smoked. (For example, smoking two packs of cigarettes per day for 12 years would result in a 24 pack-year score.)

Oral Cancer: Screening for oral cavity and oropharyngeal cancer may be done during a routine check-up by a dentist or medical doctor. The exam will include looking for lesions or abnormal-looking areas in the mouth and throat. This is a very important screening when one considers that 75% of all head and neck cancers begin in the oral cavity.

Prostate Cancer: The PSA test is used to screen men for prostate cancer; however, it is not clear if the benefits of testing all men outweigh the risks, such as finding and treating slow-growing cancers that do not require treatment. It is important to talk with your doctor about the risks and potential benefits, based on your personal and family history.

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Florida Cancer Specialists & Research Institute (FCS) has put together a network of expert, board-certified physicians who bring world-class cancer treatments to local communities, both large and small, across the state. With nearly 100 locations, FCS is the largest independent oncology/ hematology group in the United States.

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Florida Cancer Specialists treats patients with all types of cancer, and offers a number of services, such as an in-house specialty pharmacy, an in-house pathology lab and financial counselors at every location, that deliver the most advanced and personalized care in your local community.



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CANNABIDIOL—CBD—is a cannabis compound that has significant medical benefits, but does not make people feel “stoned” and can actually counteract the psycho activity of THC. The fact that CBD-rich cannabis is non-psychoactive makes it an appealing option for patients looking for relief from inflammation, pain, anxiety, psychosis, seizures, spasms, and other conditions without disconcerting feelings of lethargy or dysphoria.

Scientific and clinical research—much of it sponsored by the US government—underscores CBD’s potential as a treatment for a wide range of conditions, including arthritis, diabetes, alcoholism, MS, chronic pain, schizophrenia, PTSD, depression, antibiotic-resistant infections, epilepsy, and other neurological disorders. CBD has demonstrable neuroprotective and neurogenic effects, and its anti-cancer properties are currently being investigated at several academic research centers in the United States and elsewhere.

Extensive preclinical research—much of it sponsored by the U.S. government—indicates that CBD has potent anti-tumoral, antioxidant, anti-spasmodic, anti-psychotic, anti-convulsive, and neuroprotective properties. CBD directly activates serotonin receptors, causing an anti-depressant effect, as well.

Here are five facts that you should know about this unique compound:

1. CBD is a key ingredient in cannabis

CBD is one of over 60 compounds found in cannabis that belong to a class of molecules called cannabinoids. Of these compounds, CBD and THC are usually present in the highest concentrations, and are therefore the most recognized and studied.

CBD and THC levels tend to vary among different plants. Marijuana grown for recreational purposes often contains more THC than CBD.

However, by using selective breeding techniques, cannabis breeders have managed to create varieties with high levels of CBD and next to zero levels of THC. These strains are rare but have become more popular in recent years.

2. CBD is non-psychoactive

Unlike THC, CBD does NOT cause a high. While this makes CBD a poor choice for recreational users, it gives the chemical a significant advantage as a medicine, since health professionals prefer treatments with minimal side effects.

CBD is non-psychoactive because it does not act on the same pathways as THC. These pathways, called CB1 receptors, are highly concentrated in the brain and are responsible for the mind-altering effects of THC.

A 2011 review published in Current Drug Safety concludes that CBD “does not interfere with several psychomotor and psychological functions.” The authors add that several studies suggest that CBD is “well tolerated and safe” even at high doses.

3. CBD has a wide range of medical benefits

Although CBD and THC act on different pathways of the body, they seem to have many of the same medical benefits. According to a 2013 review published in the British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology, studies have found CBD to possess the following medical properties:

MEDICAL PROPERTIES OF CBD	EFFECTS
Antiemetic	Reduces nausea and vomiting
Anticonvulsant	Suppresses seizure activity
Antipsychotic	Combats psychosis disorders
Anti-inflammatory	Combats inflammatory disorders
Anti-oxidant	Combats neurodegenerative disorders
Anti-tumoral/Anti-cancer	Combats tumor and cancer cells
Anxiolytic/Anti-depressant	Combats anxiety and depression disorders

Unfortunately, most of this evidence comes from animals, since very few studies on CBD have been carried out in human patients.

But a pharmaceutical version of CBD was recently developed by a drug company based in the UK. The company, GW Pharmaceuticals, is now funding clinical trials on CBD as a treatment for schizophrenia and certain types of epilepsy.

Likewise, a team of researchers at the California Pacific Medical Center, led by Dr. Sean McAllister, has stated that they hope to begin trials on CBD as a breast cancer therapy.

4. CBD reduces the negative effects of THC

CBD seems to offer natural protection against the marijuana high. Numerous studies suggest that CBD acts to reduce the intoxicating effects of THC, such as memory impairment and paranoia.

CBD also appears to counteract the sleep-inducing effects of THC, which may explain why some strains of cannabis are known to increase alertness.

5. CBD is legal in the US and many other countries:

If you live in the US, you can legally purchase and consume Cannabidiol in any state.



Cannabidiol from industrial hemp also has the added benefit of having virtually no THC. This is why it’s not possible to get “high” from CBD.

In fact various government agencies are taking notice to the clinical research supporting the medical benefits of CBD. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration recently approved a request to trial a pharmaceutical version of CBD in children with rare forms of epilepsy. The drug is made by GW Pharmaceuticals and is called Epidiolex.

According to the company, the drug consists of “more than 98 percent CBD, trace quantities of some other cannabinoids, and zero THC.” GW Pharmaceuticals makes another cannabis-based drug called Sativex, which has been approved in over 24 countries for treating multiple sclerosis.

Emergent Field of Water Soluble CBD

Researchers are currently diving into the arena of water soluble CBD. Simply put, “water Soluble” means “able to dissolve in water”. This entirely new discovery remains in its infancy and availability is limited. However, one thing is very clear. When CBD is water soluble it is more bioavailable for our bodies to use. Our bodies are 60% water. When we ingest water soluble CBD a greater amount of CBD reaches the bloodstream, which lowers the actual therapeutic serving size required to achieve therapeutic effect.

Water soluble CBD is simply dosed as a packet to be mixed with 4-6 ounces of water, you simply drink as a beverage. To learn more about our water soluble line of products visit www.PalmBeachHemp.com or call our team at **561-282-8235**.



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Hair Loss?

Optimal Hair Restoration Requires Early Action

By Dr. Alan J. Bauman, MD,
ABHRS Board-Certified Hair Restoration Physician

It is estimated that about 80 million Americans, both men and women, are experiencing some level of hair loss. That's a quarter of the population. By age 50, nearly half of us will have thinning hair.

Even more alarming is the fact that individuals can lose as much as 50% of their hair before hair loss even becomes noticeable. So you may not even realize it. With August being Hair Loss Awareness Month, it is an ideal time to focus on prevention and effective treatment.

PREVENTION

While hair loss is not life-threatening, the health of your hair and scalp are not just a sign of age, but rather an excellent indicator of overall health and vitality. Put simply, a youthful head of hair makes people look good, and feel good too. Research has shown that an overwhelming majority of those who have undergone treatment for hair loss wish they had begun sooner.

As with any health concern, the key to prevention is having the desire to detect it early, and to seek accurate diagnosis and treatment if needed. Early detection and medical treatment can significantly slow and even reverse hair loss before it becomes noticeable. It's important to begin monitoring the condition of your hair and scalp as early as possible and be attuned to changes in hair texture or shine, excessive shedding, decreases

in hair volume or scalp coverage, widening of your part-line or a receding of your hairline or temple areas.

Fortunately, beyond blood tests and biopsies, there are an abundance of new medical measurement and evaluation tools available in the subspecialty of Hair Restoration, so it is now possible to accurately diagnose, measure, and monitor your condition like never before. Quick and painless evaluations such as HairCheck® provide doctors and Trichologists – professionals specializing in hair and scalp health – insight into your Hair Mass Index or HMI, a scientific measurement of the caliber and density of your hair at any point on your scalp. Knowing and monitoring your HMI is an easy way to keep tabs on the overall condition of your scalp, and may be the best way to detect hair loss as early as possible.

Of course, prevention and early detection are even more important if you have one or more of the risk factors that can affect hair loss. For instance, you are more likely to experience hair loss if your family has a history of hair loss. Other factors include illnesses, stress, side effects from certain medications, smoking, and a poor nutrition. Being aware of these risk factors and doing what you can to reduce them as much as possible will help shift the odds in your favor.

TREATMENT

For those that are experiencing hair loss, the good news is that it is 100% treatable. Treatment options exist for all the varying degrees of hair loss, from simple thinning or shedding to extensive pattern baldness. There are even non-surgical medical hair replacement options available for those who are suffering severe hair loss from alopecia, radiation and chemotherapy, as well as burns and other scars.

The most important thing for those seeking the best chance at successful treatment is to work with a credentialed medical specialist. In today’s world, it is easy to be taken in by the false claims and promises made by “miracle hair-growth” cures and elixirs. However, there are no “one size fits all” remedies for hair loss.

Ideally, hair loss sufferers should seek out an American Board of Hair Restoration Surgery or ABHRS board-certified hair restoration physician for treatment. Hair restoration is a clinically recognized medical sub-specialty, and experienced professionals with the appropriate accreditation will be able to best guide you to the proper course of treatment. Be prepared to travel to visit in-person or begin on-line with a long-distance consultation, if necessary.

Your hair restoration physician will suggest treatments and procedures that are non-invasive or minimally-invasive, depending upon the type and degree of hair loss you are experiencing and your goals. Often, as it is in many areas of medicine, “multi-therapy” or a combination of several different treatments, may have the best success in cases similar to yours.

Non-invasive options include Scalp Makeovers, low level laser therapy, nutritionals and nutraceuticals, finasteride, and/or topical application of compounded Formula 82M Minoxidil. For those with more extensive or temporary hair loss, there are medical-grade prosthetic 3D-printed Italian Hair Systems available that are completely indistinguishable from natural hair, allowing patients to confidently shower, swim, (even skydive!) and live full, active lives.

Due to technological advancements in the field of hair restoration, non-invasive, “lunchtime” treatments are now available in-office. For example,

Platelet-Rich Plasma, also known as PRP or “Vampire” hair growth therapy, works by leveraging the regenerating effects of your body’s own platelet growth factors from your own blood.

PRP is also used to enhance the effectiveness of an artistically performed FUE hair transplant procedure—the only permanent way to restore living and growing hair. Follicular Unit Extraction or FUE, harvests hair follicles for transplantation without leaving a linear scar. FUE can be performed comfortably and efficiently with sophisticated surgical instruments like NeoGraft or the ARTAS robotic-assisted system. For FUE transplantation, it is important to select an experienced and artistic physician with a proven track record of creating natural-looking and aesthetically pleasing results.

THE BOTTOM LINE

Because hair loss is generally considered more of an aesthetic issue than a medical one, people are often hesitant to talk about it, or to seek diagnosis or treatment for it. Yet, it can significantly affect your quality of life. In fact, a landmark 2005 study showed that hair loss can create an “enormous emotional burden” that can trigger depression or even a psychological breakdown. This is precisely why Hair Loss Awareness Month is so important.

Let August be the motivation you need to check your HMI, see an experienced, certified medical professional about treatment, or perhaps even just pass along this article to a friend. Today, modern, effective treatment options abound, and no one should have to suffer from hair loss.

TREATMENT OPTIONS

A few of the cutting-edge treatment options to consider and ask your full-time, board-certified Hair Restoration Physician about:

- ARTAS Robotic-Assisted FUE Hair Transplant
- NeoGraft FUE Hair Transplant
- 3D-Printed Italian Hair System – Cranial Prosthesis
- PRP Platelet Rich Plasma “Vampire” Therapy
- Compounded Formula 82M Minoxidil
- Low Level Laser Therapy with LaserCap
- Nutritionals & Nutraceuticals
- Genetic Testing
- HairCheck® Hair Measurements
- Scalp Makeovers

About Dr. Alan J. Bauman, M.D.

Dr. Alan J. Bauman is the Founder and Medical Director of Bauman Medical Group in Boca Raton, Florida. Since 1997, he has treated nearly 20,000 hair loss patients and performed nearly 7,000 hair transplant procedures. An international lecturer and frequent faculty member of major medical conferences, Dr. Bauman was recently named one of



Alan J. Bauman, M.D.
Hair Loss Expert

the Top 5 Transformative CEO's in Forbes. His work has been featured in prestigious media outlets such as The Doctors Show, CNN, NBC Today, ABC Good Morning America, CBS Early Show, Men’s Health, The New York Times, Women’s Health, The Wall Street Journal, Newsweek, Dateline NBC, FOX News, MSNBC, Vogue, Allure, Harpers Bazaar and more. A minimally-invasive hair transplant pioneer, in 2008 Dr. Bauman became the first ABHRS certified Hair Restoration Physician to routinely use NeoGraft FUE for hair transplant procedures.

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Vaginal Rejuvenation



Intimacy is a difficult subject for anyone to share with a healthcare provider, however many women suffer from the effects that aging & childbirth have on their lives. It is very common for women not only to experience signs of aging in the face and body, but also in the vagina. It can range from aesthetic deterioration such as pigmentary changes to significant medical problems. With aging, the vaginal wall can lose elasticity and tone. This can also be a side effect of childbirth. It can result in leaking urine when coughing or sneezing, also called stress incontinence, and painful intercourse due to increased dryness, burning and itching. It can result in problems with intimacy and sexual satisfaction for many women.

In the past pelvic flow exercises or electro-stimulation were prescribed, however many times these are not successful. Surgical Vaginal rejuvenation options involve significant downtime and risk. Other options are topical treatments and hormones, but a great number of women prefer not to use hormones or cannot use them because of their history of breast cancer.

The Core Intima laser by Syneron is a revolutionary new laser that has significant improvement in the above mentioned symptoms. It is painless, non-surgical, has minimal downtime and requires a series of 3 treatments. The treatment only takes 10 minutes. A gentle laser energy is delivered to the vaginal wall. This stimulates collagen production, followed by a healing response to tighten tissue, and restore moisture in the vaginal canal. Most patients report improvement even after the first treatment.

The Core Intima is a Carbon Dioxide laser. Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) lasers have long been shown to regenerate collagen through heat induced collagen contraction. When studied under the microscope, vaginal tissue shows new collagen production and deposition, thereby thickening the vaginal wall. There is general structure improvement in the connective tissue and new blood vessel formation, thus increasing the circulation and restoring a “rejuvenated” or healthier tissue. There is improvement in lubrication and a return to a more active and healthy lifestyle. Symptoms of dryness, itching, painful urination, painful intercourse and recurrent infections improve significantly. For more information call **561-655-6325** or visit **www.drdadurian.com**.



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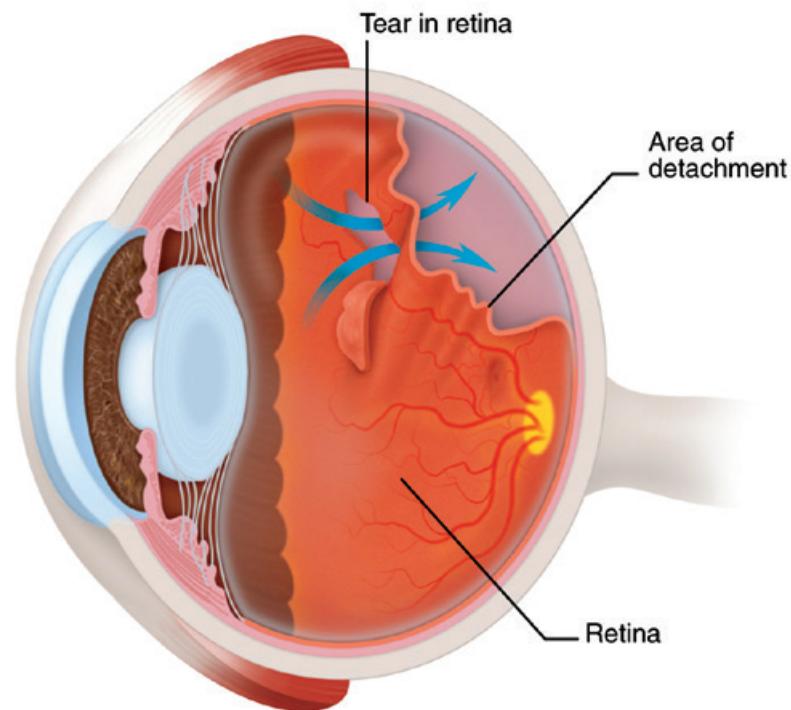
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RETINAL TEAR and RETINAL DETACHMENT

By Lauren R. Rosecan, M.D., Ph.D., F.A.C.S.

THE RETINA is the light-sensitive tissue lining the back of our eye. Light rays are focused onto the retina through our cornea, pupil and lens. The retina converts the light rays into impulses that travel through the optic nerve to our brain, where they are interpreted as the images we see. A healthy, intact retina is key to clear vision.



The middle of our eye is filled with a clear gel called vitreous (vi-tree-us) that is attached to the retina. Sometimes tiny clumps of gel or cells inside the vitreous will cast shadows on the retina, and you may sometimes see small dots, specks, strings or clouds moving in your field of vision. These are called floaters. You can often see them when looking at a plain, light background, like a blank wall or blue sky.

As we get older, the vitreous may shrink and pull on the retina. When this happens, you may notice what look like flashing lights, lightning streaks or the sensation of seeing “stars.” These are called flashes.

Usually, the vitreous moves away from the retina without causing problems. But sometimes the vitreous pulls hard enough to tear the retina in one or more places. Fluid may pass through a retinal tear, lifting the retina off the back of the eye — much as wallpaper can peel off a wall. When the retina is pulled away from the back of the eye like this, it is called a retinal detachment.

The retina does not work when it is detached and vision becomes blurry. A retinal detachment is a very serious problem that almost always causes blindness unless it is treated with detached retina surgery.

TORN OR DETACHED RETINA SYMPTOMS

Symptoms of a retinal tear and a retinal detachment can include the following:

- A sudden increase in size and number of floaters, indicating a retinal tear may be occurring;
- A sudden appearance of flashes, which could be the first stage of a retinal tear or detachment;
- Having a shadow appear in the periphery (side) of your field of vision;
- Seeing a gray curtain moving across your field of vision;
- A sudden decrease in your vision.

Floaters and flashes in themselves are quite common and do not always mean you have a retinal tear or detachment. However, if they are suddenly more severe and you notice you are losing vision, you should call your ophthalmologist right away.

WHO IS AT RISK FOR A TORN OR DETACHED RETINA?

People with the following conditions have an increased risk for retinal detachment:

- Nearsightedness;
- Previous cataract surgery;
- Glaucoma;
- Severe eye injury;
- Previous retinal detachment in the other eye;
- Family history of retinal detachment;
- Weak areas in the retina that can be seen by an ophthalmologist during an eye exam.

TORN OR DETACHED RETINA DIAGNOSIS

Your ophthalmologist can diagnose retinal tear or retinal detachment during an eye examination where he or she dilates (widens) the pupils of your eyes. An ultrasound of the eye may also be performed to get additional detail of the retina.

Only after careful examination can your ophthalmologist tell whether a retinal tear or

early retinal detachment is present. Some retinal detachments are found during a routine eye examination. That is why it is so important to have regular eye exams.

TORN OR DETACHED RETINA TREATMENT

A retinal tear or a detached retina is repaired with a surgical procedure. Based on your specific condition, your ophthalmologist will discuss the type of procedure recommended and will tell you about the various risks and benefits of your treatment options.

Torn retina surgery

Most retinal tears need to be treated by sealing the retina to the back wall of the eye with laser surgery. Both of these procedures create a scar that helps seal the retina to the back of the eye. This prevents fluid from traveling through the tear and under the retina, which usually prevents the retina from detaching. These treatments cause little or no discomfort and may be performed in your ophthalmologist’s office.

Laser surgery (photocoagulation)

With laser surgery, your Eye M.D. uses a laser to make small burns around the retinal tear. The scarring that results seals the retina to the underlying tissue, helping to prevent a retinal detachment.

Detached retina surgery

Almost all patients with retinal detachments must have surgery to place the retina back in its proper position. Otherwise, the retina will lose the ability to function, possibly permanently, and blindness



can result. The method for fixing retinal detachment depends on the characteristics of the detachment. In each of the following methods, your Eye M.D. will locate the retinal tears and use laser surgery or cryotherapy to seal the tear.

Vitrectomy

This surgery is commonly used to fix a retinal detachment and is performed in an operating room. The vitreous gel, which is pulling on the retina, is removed from the eye and usually replaced with a gas bubble.

Sometimes an oil bubble is used (instead of a gas bubble) to keep the retina in place. Your body’s own fluids will gradually replace a gas bubble. An oil bubble will need to be removed from the eye at a later date with another surgical procedure. Sometimes vitrectomy is combined with a scleral buckle.

If a gas bubble was placed in your eye, your ophthalmologist may recommend that you keep your head in special positions for a time. Do not fly

in an airplane or travel at high altitudes until you are told the gas bubble is gone. A rapid increase in altitude can cause a dangerous rise in eye pressure. With an oil bubble, it is safe to fly on an airplane.

Most retinal detachment surgeries (80 to 90 percent) are successful, although a second operation is sometimes needed.

Some retinal detachments cannot be fixed. The development of scar tissue is the usual reason that a retina is not able to be fixed. If the retina cannot be reattached, the eye will continue to lose sight and ultimately become blind.

After successful surgery for retinal detachment, vision may take many months to improve and, in some cases, may never return fully. Unfortunately, some patients do not recover any vision. The more severe the detachment, the less vision may return. For this reason, it is very important to see your ophthalmologist regularly or at the first sign of any trouble with your vision.



The Retina Institute of Florida

Lauren R. Rosecan

M.D., Ph.D., F.A.C.S.

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Pain Management for Sciatica



SCIATICA TREATMENT

Sciatica refers to pain that radiates along the path of the sciatic nerve, which branches from your lower back through your hips and buttocks and down each leg. Typically, sciatica affects only one or both sides of your body.

Sciatica most commonly occurs when a herniated disk, bone spur (arthritis) on the spine or narrowing of the spine (spinal stenosis) compresses part of the nerve. This causes inflammation, pain and often some numbness in the affected leg(s).

Although the pain associated with sciatica can be severe, most cases resolve with non-operative treatments in a few weeks with treatment that Dr. Rosenblatt can easily perform.

Pain that radiates from your lower (lumbar) spine to your buttock and down the back of your leg is the hallmark of sciatica. You might feel the discomfort almost anywhere along the nerve pathway, but it's especially likely to follow a path from your low back to your buttock and the back of your thigh and calf.

The pain can vary widely, from a mild ache to a sharp, burning sensation or excruciating pain. Sometimes it can feel like a jolt or electric shock. It can be worse when you cough or sneeze, and prolonged sitting or walking can aggravate



By Aaron Rosenblatt, MD

symptoms. Some people also have numbness, tingling or muscle weakness in the affected leg or foot. You might have pain in one part of your leg and numbness in another part. You do not have to have low back pain to have sciatic pain.

Please call Dr. Rosenblatt when self-care measures fail to ease your symptoms or if your pain lasts longer than a week, is severe or becomes progressively worse. **Get immediate medical care if:**

- *You have sudden, severe pain in your low back or leg and numbness or muscle weakness in your leg*
- *The pain follows a violent injury, such as a traffic accident*
- *You have trouble controlling your bowels or bladder*

Sciatica occurs when the sciatic nerve becomes pinched, usually by a herniated disk in your spine or by an overgrowth of bone (bone spur) on your vertebrae. More rarely, the nerve can be compressed other tissue or damaged by a disease such as diabetes. Shingles is another common cause that would require treatment.

During the physical exam, Dr. Rosenblatt will check your muscle strength and reflexes. For example, you may be asked to walk on your toes or heels, rise from a squatting position and, while lying on your back, lift your legs one at a time. Pain that results from sciatica will usually worsen during these activities.



Many people have herniated disks or bone spurs that will show up on X-rays and other imaging tests but have no symptoms. So doctors don't typically order these tests unless your pain is severe, or it doesn't improve within a few weeks.

- **X-RAY.** An X-ray of your spine may reveal an overgrowth of bone (bone spur) that may be pressing on a nerve.

- **MRI.** This procedure uses a powerful magnet and radio waves to produce cross-sectional images of your back. An MRI produces detailed images



of bone and soft tissues such as herniated disks. During the test, you lie on a table that moves into the MRI machine.

- **CT SCAN.** Can also be used for a faster imaging result or when an MRI is not allowed.

After evaluation, Dr. Rosenblatt might recommend injection of a medication into the area around the involved nerve root(s). This can help reduce and or eliminate pain by suppressing inflammation around the irritated nerve. This can greatly improve the pain and discomfort from the multiple causes of sciatica and help improve an individuals overall function. There are several different types of nerve root treatments to consider based on the location and severity of the impingement of the nerve. Usually treatment takes no longer than 5-6 minutes and can provide immediate relief!

Dr. Rosenblatt explains, "This procedure is simple and helps people of all ages to help feel less pain and function at a higher level. It is great for neck and lumbar spine pain. It will also help to avoid unnecessary spine surgery."

In Dr. Rosenblatt's beautiful freestanding interventional pain management building in Delray Beach, FL, thousands of individuals have been able to benefit from this technique. Dr. Rosenblatt has been performing this procedure for more than 17 years with great success. Please look forward to more articles about Dr. Aaron Rosenblatt and the vast number of procedures he performs to help people with all types of pain. His main focus is to help individuals avoid surgery, eliminate pain medications and to ultimately feel much better on a daily basis and enjoy life!

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GAINSWave **is a Revolutionary** **New Therapy** **that Treats** **Erectile Dysfunction (ED)**

WHAT CAUSES ED?

As men age, the vessels in the penis weaken, contract and fill with micro-plaque just as they do elsewhere in the body. This prohibits men from achieving an erection or decreases the firmness of a man's erection. At the same time, the penis decreases in sensitivity, making it harder to achieve a pleasurable orgasm. Finally, the time necessary between orgasm and the ability to achieve an erection (the refractory time) increases. The bottom line is that most erectile dysfunction is a result of poor blood flow, known as vasculogenic ED.

COMMON TREATMENT FOR ED:

As many as 50% of men experience some form of ED by the age of 50. For many years men with ED have resorted to oral ED medications to relieve their symptoms. Oral medications for ED can be an effective temporary relief of the symptoms of ED, they don't target the root cause of most patients' ED, they can often bring unwanted side effects, and they can fail to work up to 50% of the time in some men.

Expensive oral medications such as Viagra and Cialis may cause unwanted side effects, such as nasal congestion, headaches, upset stomach, vision changes, facial flushing, and dizziness. They also have to be taken before intercourse limiting spontaneity. Finally, there are many men with cardiovascular disease who are not candidates for treatment with these medications.

Depending on the severity of ED, The Journal of Urology reported oral ED medications may only yield up to a 27% effective rate in those with severe ED. This leads patients with more severe ED to invasive treatments like penile injections, where medication is injected directly into the penis before intercourse. This again limits spontaneity and chronically drains the wallet.

WHY MEDICATE WHEN YOU CAN CURE?

Introducing the only Erectile Dysfunction Treatment that treats the underlying cause of ED, GAINSWave is revolutionary, non-invasive and heals the underlying causes of ED. GAINSWave uses FDA-cleared, scientifically proven non-invasive technology that uses Acoustic Pressure Waves to stimulate cellular metabolism, enhance blood circulation and stimulate tissue regeneration creating new blood vessels in treated areas. GAINSWave is about regenerative medicine – helping men return to their younger, healthier selves, and enabling a spontaneous, active sex life.

SCIENTIFICALLY PROVEN RESULTS

There are over 40 clinical studies showing GAINSWave technology to be effective in treating ED. Patients are reporting great improvements to their sexual health, including:

- Longer lasting erections
- More Spontaneous erections
- Fuller Erections
- Relief from symptoms of Erectile Dysfunction and Peyronie’s Disease
- Enhanced sensitivity
- Improved sexual performance
- Decreased recovery time between orgasms



- 100% SAFE
- Non-invasive
- No Down Time
- No Side Effects
- Painless
- 20-30 minutes per session
- Over 80% Patient Satisfaction

IS IT SAFE?

Yes. This is an FDA cleared technology that originally developed in Europe and is used worldwide. GAINSWave uses state-of-the-art technology that has extensive applications including orthopedic medicine, urology, and anti-aging treatments and wound healing. While a specific indication for treating ED has not yet been granted, we know that it is only a matter of time given the extraordinary success. In clinical practice, over a 79% of the men who utilize this treatment report improvement in symptoms related to ED. We have even seen improvements in those men who have lost functioning after some forms of prostate surgery. GAINSWave has virtually no risks or side effects and no downtime. This therapy has been used extensively in Europe for over 10-15 years, but is relatively new to the U.S. for erectile dysfunction.

HOW TO GET STARTED

Dr. Erickson, takes on each case with individualized care. Return to the sexually confident and active man you were before suffering from erectile dysfunction. Some men in their 40’s and early 50’s even find it helpful for reinvigorating their sex life and improving their performance to levels they enjoyed in their 20’s.

Contact Dr. Erickson for a private consultation today, **561-807-9132**.

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“Multinational clinical trials demonstrated it is a safe, effective and well-tolerated treatment for erectile dysfunction (ED) which includes men who do not respond to type-5 (PDE-5) inhibitor (Viagra).”
– *Urology Times, Oct 1, 2015*

“Treatment is effective even in patients with severe erectile dysfunction (ED) who are PDE5i non-responders.”
– *The Journal of Urology, May 2016*

“This treated shows a possible cure in some (ED) patients.”
– *The Scandinavian Journal of Urology*

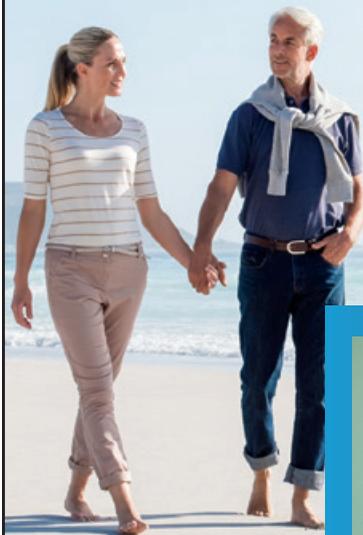
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DO YOU HAVE A PROBLEM WITH ALCOHOL OR DRUGS?

By Ashley Miller, M.Ed, LMHC, CAP



Chances are, if you think you have a problem with alcohol or drugs (prescription or recreational), you probably do. Honestly answer these questions to help assess your situation:

1. *Have you felt you ought to cut down on your use?*
2. *Have people annoyed you by criticizing your use?*
3. *Have you felt bad or guilty about your use?*
4. *Have you ever used first thing in the morning to steady your nerves or to get rid of a hangover?*

If you answered “yes” to two or more of the above questions, it suggests you have a substance use problem. More important than the number of “yes” responses is how you feel and how your behavior affects your life.

Many people do not get the help they need since their feelings of worry, hopelessness, fear, guilt, and shame prevent them from reaching out to professionals who can help them. Facing up to the fact that you might have a problem takes courage. Deciding to take control and get some help is a really brave move, and if you do feel you have a problem, getting help can be the best thing ever. The easiest and quickest way to get help is to talk to someone about it. The sooner you talk to someone about what you’re going through, the sooner things will start to feel a bit better. Fortunately, getting the help you need is as simple as making a confidential phone call to an addiction professional who can offer support and insight into your individual needs.

Recovery from addiction is possible. At Origins of Hope we specialize in creating a women centered treatment program that focuses on the individual. Through our holistic approach, we help heal the entire person, mentally, physically, and spiritually. Our interdisciplinary staff works closely with each patient to help overcome addiction and inspire hope.

WOMEN CENTERED

Women are unique in so many ways and treatment is no different. Our treatment program is women centered and focuses on the distinct needs of women in addiction recovery. The atmosphere at Origins of Hope, characterized by support, acceptance, and hope, is the foundation that provides our client’s the ability to work through challenges productively. We recognize the special traits that women possess and encourage strategies and skills that highlight those traits and strengthen healing. Since women frequently become dependent on substances to seek relief from painful emotions, we teach women ways to calm oneself through self-soothing techniques and sharing with others to replace destructive ways of coping.

Our comprehensive approach addresses the physical, psychological, emotional, spiritual, and sociopolitical aspects of addiction. We provide specialized treatment services and offer an array of resources to help with specific issues experienced by women including child care, parenting, domestic violence, housing, etc., to help women overcome barriers that may prevent them from engaging in treatment.

Ashley Miller, a Certified Addictions Professional, is the Clinical Director of Origins of Hope, a premier treatment program for women. Utilizing holistic & evidence-based methods, OOH aids women in developing the skills necessary to overcome addiction and establish a solid foundation in recovery.



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Introducing the only Erectile Dysfunction Treatment that cures ED, RejuvaWave™ is revolutionary, non-invasive and heals the underlying causes of ED. RejuvaWave™ uses FDA-cleared, scientifically proven non-invasive technology that uses Acoustic Pressure Waves to stimulate cellular metabolism, enhance blood circulation and stimulate tissue regeneration creating new blood vessels in treated areas. Traditional treatments for ED, such as pills or injections, lose effectiveness over time and have

to be used every time a man wants to engage in sexual activity. Our treatment is about regenerative medicine – helping men return to their younger, healthier selves, and enabling a spontaneous, active sex life.

GO BEYOND MEDICATION. EXPERIENCE THE CURE FOR ERECTILE DYSFUNCTION.

Simply Men's Health believes in treating and curing the underlying issue with regenerative

medicine. RejuvaWave™ stimulates your body's own healing response and creates new blood vessels in the area treated. In some cases, doctor's combine RejuvaWave™ with PRP (Platelet Rich Plasma) in order to add a high concentration of growth factors that work synergistically together. By treating ED patients with regenerative medicine, doctors can best restore patients to their younger healthier selves, rather than relying on oral medications or injections as a temporary fix for each sexual activity.

IS IT SAFE?

Yes. This is an FDA cleared technology, originally developed in Europe and used worldwide. RejuvaWave™ uses state-of-the-art technology that has extensive applications including orthopedic medicine, urology, and anti-aging treatments and wound healing. RejuvaWave™ has virtually no risks or side effects. RejuvaWAVE™ therapy has been used extensively in Europe for over 10-15 years, but is relatively new to the U.S. for erectile dysfunction. As the leader in men's sexual health, Simply Men's Health introduced this technology in the spring of 2015 and the results have been nothing short of amazing.



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- No Down Time
- No Side Effects
- 10-15 minutes per session
- Over 80% Patient Satisfaction

HOW TO GET STARTED

At the Simply's Men's Health, take on each case with individualized care and cater your private consultation with our experienced staff of physicians. We pinpoint the exact cause of your sexual health issues and provide a diagnosis to create a customized treatment plan that can CURE ED in about 80% of patients or restore sexual function in over 98% of patients. Return to the sexually confident and active man you were before suffering from erectile dysfunction. Contact the health care professionals at Simply Men's Health today for a private consultation today.



WHAT OUR PATIENTS ARE SAYING:

Testimonial: I am 70 years old and have diabetes and have had heart surgery and had a stroke. I haven't had an erection in over 10 years and Viagra did nothing. I have tried several clinics and needles in the past, but nothing helped. I heard about this new treatment at Simply Men's Health, and I gave it try not having much expectations. To my surprise after my first treatment I woke up with an erection, something I hadn't seen in years, and by my 5th treatment I was having sex with my wife. It's truly a miracle treatment.

- Steven O.

Testimonial: I'm 34 years old and started to experience problems getting an erection and maintaining it over the last couple of years. I had tried Viagra and hormones, but it didn't help. I heard about Simply Men's Health and made an appointment not knowing what to expect. I signed up for the 3 week EPAT therapy and the Priapus shot. After just a couple of treatments I was getting erections, but even more amazing was that the curve in my penis straightened out. The treatment was only a few minutes and relatively painless, but the results are amazing.

- A. B.

Testimonial: I'm 80 years old and married to my high school sweetheart. One day my wife asked me if I could rub a genie bottle and have one wish, what would it be? My answer was to have sex like we used to when we were young. It would take a miracle. I have had problems with ED for over 10 years and had TURP surgery for my prostate. I had gone to urologists and tried pills and nothing helped. Well, my wife said she heard a commercial for Simply Men's Health. I called and made the first available appointment. I was so scared and nervous, but the staff was wonderful and understanding. Within a few weeks my wish came true and my wife and I are so ecstatic.

- Ral S.



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ACUPUNCTURE: The New Facelift?

WHAT IS SKIN REJUVENATING ACUPUNCTURE?

Skin Rejuvenating Acupuncture is an effective, safe, non-surgical treatment to reduce the signs of aging. It is a great natural alternative to Botox. It is based on the principles of Chinese Medicine which has been around for thousands of years. It involves the insertion of very thin disposable needles just under the skin's surface on the face and body where needed to balance energy and encourage healing.

This specific, very shallow insertion creates tiny "micro-traumas" on the skin's surface which stimulates your production of elastin and collagen, which is critical to anti-aging. It also increases oxygen and blood circulation to the skin. This combination helps fill in fine lines and give firmness and tone to the skin for a healthy, glowing complexion.

Acupuncture has been used for thousands of years to treat many conditions and illnesses. The effectiveness of acupuncture has been related to the manipulation of the energy points on the body to balance and to remove blockages in the meridians (energetic pathways), in order to achieve health and to prevent diseases.

Skin Rejuvenation Acupuncture has attracted great attention in the last few years, especially in the big cities like New York City and Los Angeles. It used to be a treatment only for the rich and famous in Hollywood, but now everyone wants the royal treatment.

A 1996 report in the international journal of Clinical Acupuncture reported that among 300 cases treated with acupuncture for skin rejuvenation, 90% has marked effects with one course of treatment. The effects included: more

delicate skin, improvement of elasticity of facial muscles and tone, brighter complexion, and overall rejuvenation.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

A practitioner specializing in Cosmetic Acupuncture is able to utilize the meridians that either end or begin at the face to stimulate and balance the energy and at the same time, treat the underlying factors that contribute to the aging process. This involves the insertion of hair-thin disposable needles just under the skin at specific areas on the face and body. The needles are inserted into the energy pathways or meridians to improve the flow of Qi (energy inherent in all living things). As the flow of energy improves a greater amount of energy and blood are circulated to the face, oxygenating, firming and toning the skin to diminish fine lines and improve overall skin tone.



WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF SKIN REJUVENATING ACUPUNCTURE?

Skin Rejuvenating Acupuncture may take 5 to 10 years off the appearance of your skin. It helps to eliminate fine lines and makes the deeper lines look softer. It also firms and tones the skin to help reduce sagging along the jaw line and drooping eyelids.

OTHER BENEFITS INCLUDE:

- Improves muscle tone
- Increases circulation and oxygenation of the skin
- Tightens the pores
- Helps reduce acne outbreaks
- Nourishes the skin for a healthy natural more radiant glow
- Brightens the skin to reduce dull complexions
- Minimizes fine lines
- Increases collagen and elastin production
- Evens facial color and tone
- Increases lymph circulation Leaves skin refreshed and rejuvenated.

WHY CHOOSE SKIN REJUVENATING ACUPUNCTURE OVER A FACE LIFT?

While not a replacement for surgery, acupuncture is an excellent alternative for someone who does not want to undergo a surgical procedure. Skin rejuvenating acupuncture is a much more subtle procedure (which can be a good thing) and does not have the risks involved with surgery. It is also far less expensive than plastic surgery and is virtually painless and has no side effects or risk of disfigurement. Surgery may have an extended recovery period with swelling and discoloration.

WHO SHOULD NOT HAVE SKIN REJUVENATING ACUPUNCTURE?

There are various cautions including bleeding disorders, persons on blood thinners or persons with hypersensitivity or untreated high blood pressure. In such cases, our non-needle technique would be the preferred treatment.

DOES IT REALLY MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

Skin Rejuvenating Acupuncture has been performed for thousands of years in China. As early as the Sung Dynasty (960 A D – 1270 AD) acupuncture was performed on the Empress and Emperor’s concubines. For centuries, the Chinese have known that beauty radiates from the inside

out. If the internal body is nourished and the energy and blood are flowing smoothly, the external body will reveal this radiance. A study in 1996 in the International Journal of Clinical Acupuncture reported that among 300 cases treated with Skin Rejuvenating Acupuncture, 90% reported marked effects with one course of treatment. The effects included: the skin becoming more delicate and fair, improvement of the elasticity of facial muscles and leveling of wrinkles, a bright complexion and overall rejuvenation.

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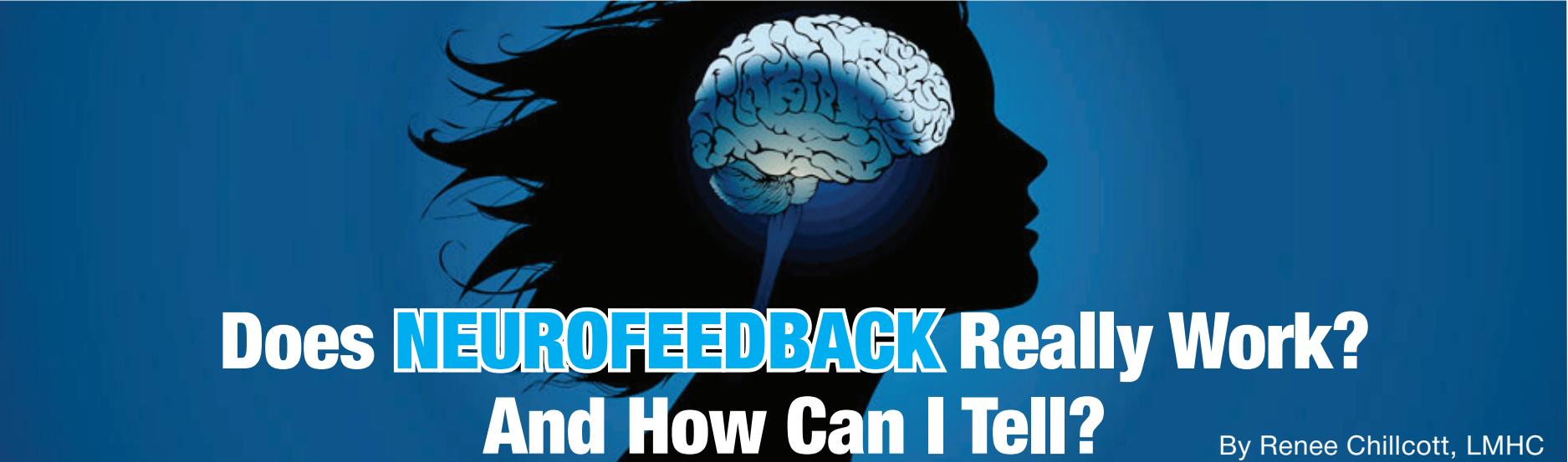
Dr. Meng, MD (China), AP, received her medical degree from the prestigious Shandong University in China and has also completed several advanced training courses in oriental medicine from well-respected TCM hospitals in China. She has over 18 years of experience as a doctor of Chinese medicine. She has owned and operated Meng’s Acupuncture Medical Center since 2007.

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Does **NEUROFEEDBACK** Really Work? And How Can I Tell?

By Renee Chillcott, LMHC

We are frequently asked to explain Neurofeedback and then to show the results of training. This isn't the easiest task for us to master and I am writing this article to attempt to explain why. The easiest way for me to relate information is through anecdotal metaphors so here it goes:

My father, at the request of my mother, goes to the doctor and they run bloodwork. The results revealed elevated PSA levels. Prostate cancer was indicated, however, it was at a very early stage, so the Doctor advised my father to "get healthy" and come back in 6 months.

"Get Healthy" is a very broad term that is heard every day and you are supposed to know what it means. But what exactly does it mean? Does it mean just lower PSA count? Or a lower weight on the scale? What in the world does HEALTHY mean?

What his Doctor didn't explain more clearly is that there is no one value for "healthy" and that it means different things for different people. What we measure in body can fluctuate and change from day to day and should be used as a guide rather than being taken literally. Mental health is no different.

Neurofeedback works to make your brain "healthier" the same way that diet and exercise work to make your body "healthier". It's difficult to put a number to health as it is a "STATE" rather than a goal. The state of being physically healthy or mentally healthy means several systems working together in a positive harmony.

When you're working to achieve physical health, the results can be difficult to quantify. You may see some numbers change, however, the most significant indication that you are getting healthy is by how you "feel".

If you feel healthy, you are healthy. If you don't feel better, you seek out another avenue or treatment. Feeling better is the ultimate goal.

FIRST, WHAT IS NEUROFEEDBACK?

Neurofeedback, also known as EEG biofeedback, has been studied and practiced since the late 60's. It is exercise for your brain; allowing you to see the frequencies produced by different parts of your brain in real-time and then through visual and auditory feedback, teaches the brain to better regulate itself. Neurofeedback can be used to help detect, stimulate, and/or inhibit activity in the brain safely and without medication. It can help restore a wider "range of motion" in brain states, much like physical therapy does for the body.

While the client sits comfortably watching a movie or pictures appear on the screen (a calm and focused state), the EEG equipment measures the frequency or speed at which electrical activity moves in the areas where electrodes have been placed. This information is sent to the therapist's computer. The therapist is then able to determine what frequencies are out of balance. For example, when the EEG shows that you are making too many "slow" or "sleepy" waves (delta/theta) or too many "fast" waves (high beta), the therapist adjusts a reward band to encourage more balanced activity. This encouragement or "reward" happens through an auditory reinforcement of "beeps" and sometimes through visual reinforcement of changes on the screen.

As it relates to my metaphor above, Neurofeedback Training is like "yoga for your brain". You will FEEL the improvements even though you may have a difficult quantifying them.

HOW DOES A "BEEP" OR SOUND TRAIN MY BRAIN TO WORK BETTER?

The auditory or sound reward that corresponds to an increase or decrease in desired brainwave

activity is able to affect the brain on a neurological level. Auditory reward stimulates auditory pathways, impacts the vestibular system, and has many connections to the reticular activating system, which modulates wakefulness and attention. These systems operate in our brains without conscious effort. Therefore, neurofeedback teaches your brain through automated learning with little or no behavioral effort. Another way to say this is that neurofeedback involves operant conditioning or learning. This type of learning teaches us through a reinforced reward system. The auditory reward (beep) is delivered on a schedule of reinforcement that promotes optimal learning; not too hard and not too easy. This schedule of reinforcement or reward provides just the right amount of resistance to evoke a positive learning pattern.

WHAT TYPES OF CONDITIONS DOES NEUROFEEDBACK HELP?

Symptoms of these conditions, among others, can improve through neurofeedback training:

- Anxiety • Sleep disorders • Depression
- ADD/ADHD • Sensory processing disorder
- Bipolar disorder • Seizure disorders
- Auditory/visual processing
- Chronic pain/Fibromyalgia
- Migraines/headaches • Traumatic brain injuries
- Stroke • Cognitive decline
- Peak performance
- Oppositional defiant disorder
- Rages/mood swings
- Attention/focus/concentration
- Reactive attachment disorder
- Autism/Asperger's • Learning disabilities
- Obsessive compulsive disorder

HOW DO I KNOW IF IT'S WORKING?

As the brain learns, you will see the changes. However, everyone learns at different speeds, so it cannot be determined how quickly someone will learn. On average, children take about 10-20 ses-

sions to see changes and we can discuss what to expect during the intake appointment. For adults changes are usually noticed within 10 sessions. Total treatment is an average of 40 sessions, however we individualize treatment – some people need more and some less. As mentioned before, the goal of Neurofeedback is to achieve balance and flexibility so recognizing that it's working can be a challenge. First, as no two brains are alike, no two people have the same experience with Neurofeedback or learn at the same speed. Second, setting up treatment goals can also vary from person to person and as you are unable to control how fast or for that matter, how our brains learn, you must learn how to observe. This ability to observe can be quite challenging for some people. Up to this point in life, your brain hasn't been behaving the way you would like it to. So, observing changes requires a bit of practice. We will be discussing your experience with you when you come in for each session. And third, you're going to be looking for an absence of symptoms. Looking for something to "not" be there definitely requires reflection rather than observance. We'll teach you how to look back at the end of an event, day, month, and even couple of months, to see if you notice things are different. And most importantly, we listen to you telling us how you "feel".

ARE THERE NUMBERS I CAN SEE OR A TEST TO SHOW PROGRESS?

Neurofeedback measures brain waves in several different ways. It measures the frequency of neuron firing in HERTZ and the size of the signal or AMPLITUDE in MICROVOLTS; it can also measure coherence or connectivity of the waves in SYNCHRONY. There are several quantitative measures of dysregulation that we correlate to symptoms. However, you're not coming in for quantitative relief, you're seeking treatment for symptom relief. There are different Neurofeedback systems available for a practitioner to use and new ones continue to be developed. New systems claim to teach the brain more efficiently, therefore producing faster results. Unfortunately, we cannot control how fast the brain learns and we end up back to the same situation of "as no two brains are alike, no two brains learn at the same speed". There are tests for functioning that may be done at the onset of treatment, if needed or desired. Tests for levels of processing functioning, attentional functioning, behavioral functioning, mood functioning, and more may be administered to provide the client with a baseline. However, regardless of the outcome of these tests, or regardless of the printout from a Neurofeedback session, results only count if they are observable. A QEEG (Quantitative EEG) can be performed at any point during treatment to identify dysregulated brain patterns and some practitioners will perform a second or third throughout treatment

to quantify progress. Analytical measures are available, however, we caution our clients on the misinterpretation of these measures and focus on how you are "feeling".

WHAT IS A QEEG (QUANTITATIVE EEG) OR BRAIN MAP AND DO I NEED ONE?

The QEEG is a quantitative EEG. It's also called a brain map and does just that...it gives us a map of what is going on with the entire brain at one time. We attach electrodes to the whole head, 19 spots, and then record the brain waves with eyes open for 5 minutes and with eyes closed for 10 minutes. This recording is then sent to an independent specialist to be read and analyzed. They are able to not only give us a summary of significant findings but the report also shows the results of analyzing the data several different ways. The brain activity is not only compared spot by spot over the entire head, but we can also look at connections, symmetry, how different parts are communicating and all of this data is compared to a database of peers (same sex, handedness and age). It can help us see what areas need to be addressed more efficiently than just training spot by spot.

We don't always need this data to make improvements in symptoms but we do recommend it in certain situations. A QEEG can also be helpful information when diagnosing and/or trying to decide the best medication/supplement recommendations.

WHAT IS AN EXAMPLE OF IMPROVEMENTS I MAY SEE?

At our center, our goal is to teach you how to tune into your own functioning. With children, we also teach the parents how to look at overall functioning rather than piecing together events or moments. We help you open your mind to possibilities with Neurofeedback rather than give too many examples that confuse the process or feel like a placebo. Changes you may experience or observe after a session are indicative of a learning process that will lead to improved functioning. Examples of those positive changes may be:

- Sleep patterns/quality of sleep
- Energy levels, calmer or more activated
- Ability to focus or concentrate
- Physical symptoms such as pain, headaches, migraines, tics, balance issues
- Mood or emotions
- Motivation and organization
- Feelings of Well Being
- Obsessive behaviors or thoughts
- Memory/cognitions
- Anxiety patterns or trauma patterns
- Coping
- Regulation
- Learning, communicating, and/or performance

HOW DO I GET STARTED?

Getting started is easy, just give us a call. The Brain and Wellness Center staff will answer all of your questions, and help you get scheduled. If you are wondering what services are best for you? We can help determine that at the time of the intake, in a telephone consultation, or you can schedule a face to face consultation and see our facility. Call, email or message us today! Brain and Wellness Center, 7301 W. Palmetto Park Rd., Suite 102A, Boca Raton, FL 33433. **(561) 206-2706**, e-mail us at info@bocabraincenter.com, or text us at **(561) 206-2706** or visit our website at www.BocaBrainCenter.com.



Renee Chillcott, LMHC

Renee Chillcott is a Licensed Mental Health Counselor that has been practicing Neurofeedback training since 2005. Renee attended The University of Central Florida where she received her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Psychology in 1995. She then went on to complete her Master's Degree in Mental Health Counseling with Nova Southeastern University in 2001. She has been a mental counselor in a variety of settings including Outpatient Treatment Agencies, Alternative Education Settings, and Private Practice. Renee received her license in Mental Health Counseling in 2004. Renee decided to enter the field of Neurofeedback because there was very little information made available to people/parents about alternatives to medication. Through the use of Neurofeedback she saw more significant and permanent changes in not only her clients, but also her own family and herself. This inspired her to become the owner/operator of The Wellness Center, located in Boca Raton. At The Wellness Center, adults, teens, children and families enjoy a variety of services from multiple providers. Neurofeedback, Brain Mapping, Acupuncture, Nutritional Counseling, Learning Programs, and counseling are among a few of the services offered.

DO I NEED A PERIODONTAL EVALUATION?

A recent major study reported that 1 in 2 adults over the age of 30 have periodontal disease. This may be even more important as periodontal disease has been linked to significant medical issues such as heart attacks, stroke, respiratory issues and even pre-term low birth weight babies.



WHAT IS PERIODONTAL DISEASE:

Periodontal disease is a term that includes a number of diseases of the gum tissue and jaw bone. Examples include gum recession, gum inflammation, bone loss (that can lead to tooth loss) and lesions in the mouth. Gum and bone disease can occur rapidly or slowly over time.

GINGIVITIS:

The plaque in our mouths (the light film you can feel on your teeth), which consists of things such as bacteria and food debris, often accumulate along the gum line. If not removed with brushing and flossing,

the plaque can calcify into tartar (also known as calculus). The tartar can then help catch even more plaque and continue the cycle. The body views this plaque as a bacterial infection and responds as it would to any other infection. Gum tissue fills with blood to help ward off the bacteria.

This gum swelling, known as Gingivitis, usually appears as puffy, red-purple and bleeding gums. The reaction is similar to the red and swollen appearance you get around a cut on your hand. A very important factor is that Gingivitis is REVERSIBLE. If addressed with professional treatment (often called by patients “deep cleaning”), the infection may be cleared and the inflammation typically resolves.

PERIODONTITIS:

Should the process of Gingivitis not be properly addressed, (in most cases) the disease will progress to Periodontitis, a situation where the inflammation has now led to jaw bone loss. Ultimately, this can lead to tooth mobility and tooth loss. Periodontitis is IRREVERSIBLE loss of the jaw bone. A number of treatment options exist to help slow the continuation of this disease. The more advanced the disease becomes; the more difficult it may be to save one’s teeth. Preservation of the teeth and bone are a periodontist’s primary goal. Once a patient has periodontal disease, they have it for life. Continued professional hygiene appointments (usually every 3 months) are critical to helping keep the disease in remission.

A number of factors can influence the presence or severity of the disease. Commonly related factors include genetics (did mom and dad pass this on to you), personal oral hygiene, habits (such as smoking or tobacco chewing) and your own immune system. Once the disease begins, it is important to realize that the damaging bacteria present in the gums are now able to travel throughout the entire body possibly leading to systemic inflammation or medical issues.

Having a complete periodontal evaluation can be very critical to not only the health and preservation of the teeth, gums and jaw bone, but also the health of the entire body. It is important to remember the mouth and body are connected. **A true periodontal evaluation is painless and includes a review of a full set of recent x-rays and gum measurements.** Both of these are needed to help determine if you are one of the 50% that has the disease.

Lee R. Cohen, D.D.S., M.S., M.S.

Lee R. Cohen, D.D.S., M.S., M.S., is a Dual Board Certified Periodontal and Dental Implant Surgeon. He is a graduate of Emory University and New York University College of Dentistry.



Dr. Cohen completed his surgical training at the University of Florida / Shands Hospital in Gainesville, Florida. He served as Chief Resident and currently holds a staff appointment as a Clinical Associate Professor in the Department of Periodontics and Dental Implantology. Dr. Cohen lectures, teaches and performs clinical research on topics related to his surgical specialty.

The focus of his interests are conservative approaches to treating gum, bone and tooth loss. He utilizes advanced techniques including the use of the Periolas Dental Laser (LANAP procedure) to help save teeth, dental implants, regenerate supporting bone and treat periodontal disease without the use of traditional surgical procedures. Additionally, Dr. Cohen is certified in Pinhole Gum Rejuvenation, which is a scalpel and suture free procedure to treat gum recession with immediate results.

Dr. Cohen uses in-office, state of the art 3D CT imaging to develop the least invasive dental implant and bone regeneration treatment options. Dr. Cohen and his facility are state certified to perform both IV and Oral Sedation procedures. Botox® and Dermal Fillers are also utilized to enhance patients’ cosmetic outcomes.

Dr. Cohen formerly served on the Board of Trustees for the American Academy of Periodontology and the Florida Dental Association. He is past president of the Florida Association of Periodontists and the Atlantic Coast District Dental Association. Dr. Cohen is a member of the American College of Maxillofacial Implantology and the American Academy of Facial Esthetics. In addition, he has been awarded Fellowship in the American College of Dentists, International College of Dentists and the Pierre Fauchard Academy.



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Limb Swelling:

Medicare Approved Treatment Options

By Alyssa Parker

Pneumatic compression devices are one of the most highly recommended treatments for limb swelling and are a Medicare approved treatment option. Dating back to the 1960's pneumatic compression pumps have been used for the treatment of limb swelling due to acute and chronic conditions. In most cases compression pumps are used for swelling associated with lymphedema as well as venous insufficiency. Limb swelling left untreated without a clinical diagnosis and lack of proper treatment may lead to a variety of problems.

Patient's with Venous Insufficiency who experience severe and persistent edema overtime can lead to trapped protein-rich fluid also referred to as secondary lymphedema. The lower region of the leg becomes permanently swollen and may start to harden. Due to poor circulation and protein-rich fluid buildup wounds may become chronic and appear more frequently. Common signs and symptoms that occur are fluid accumulation in a limb, a feeling of heaviness or tightness, thickening of the skin, pain or redness, or chronic ulcers in the affected limb.

How does compression therapy work?

A compression device is used for both acute care (short term in the hospital) as well as chronic care (long term in the home). The compression pump increases blood flow and lymphatic flow. By increasing the circulation in the affected limb many painful symptoms will be alleviated. When compression treatment is used on a limb the excess fluid is removed and worked back into the lymphatic system the natural way. For patients with chronic ulcers using a compression device will help heal the wound from the inside out, by increasing the circulation in the return of the blood from the heart. The heart delivers oxygen rich blood back to the legs and the tissue.

The pneumatic sequential compression relieves the pain and pressure in the swollen area and reduces the size of the limb. The sequential inflation of the chambers, of the sleeve around the affected limb, begins distal (lower region of the limb furthest from attachment) to proximal (area of attachment to the body) naturally mimicking your bodies lymph return while stimulating the blood flow in the legs.

What causes limb swelling?

There can be many different causes for limb swelling, however, two of the most common diseases for chronic limb swelling are Lymphedema and Venous insufficiency. After having a surgical procedure cancer or non-cancer related (example hysterectomy or gallbladder removal) it may take months or years for Lymphedema to manifest because of its slow progression. It is imperative that Lymphedema is treated quick and effectively, regardless of the severity. Complications dramatically decrease when treatment is started in the earliest stage of Lymphedema.

Chronic venous insufficiency is another condition that causes swelling in the legs along with open wounds. CVI occurs when the valves in the veins that normally channel the blood to the heart become damaged which then leads to pooling of the blood in the lower extremities.

Discoloration of the skin, referred to as hemosiderin staining, is identified by a reddish staining of the lower limb. Poor circulation may cause shallow wounds to develop due to the stagnant blood that would normally return to the heart. Symptoms vary but may include swelling, aching, itching or burning, varicose veins, infection, chronic venous ulcer, and decreased mobility.

Is a Compression Device the right treatment for me? Using a compression device is a great treatment option for patients who have tried compression stocking, elevation, diuretics, and massage with little or no relief. It's also a treatment option for individuals who have chronic venous ulcers. When compression stockings get worn out or stretched over time; many patients aren't receiving the needed compression. When using a compression pump the pressure is locked in, ensuring that you're getting the appropriate amount of pressure each treatment.



Diuretics may be useless and harmful over time if your edema (swelling) is a symptom of chronic venous insufficiency or lymphedema. Diuretics draw fluid from your venous system that your body must have in order to balance the continual fluid deposit from your arterial capillaries; if the needed interstitial fluid is not present because you are taking a diuretic, this will only aggravate your lymphatic system which may lead to additional fluid retention and additional swelling. Also, using a pneumatic compression device may help the prevention of blood clotting along with deep vein thrombosis or those individuals who are at risk for it.

If you or someone you love suffers from limb swelling it is important to keep a few things in mind. If any of the following apply, seeking medical advice is recommended.

- Family history of edema, venous insufficiency, or lymphedema
- Pitting or skin hardening: push your finger into your skin and count how long it takes to return
- Hemosiderin staining: "red socks" appear from the ankles down
- Traumatic injury or surgery potentially damaging your circulatory system (knee replacement etc.)
- Radiation exposure

For patients who many have Chronic venous insufficiency a test called a vascular or duplex ultrasound may be used to examine the blood circulation in your legs.

The compression pump is approved by Medicare and covered by many commercial insurers; Actual coverage varies with individual commercial insurance policies. Acute Wound Care, LLC is a highly focused local provider of wound products and compression pumps working with select area physicians highly versed in this condition.



ACUTE WOUND CARE

For more information and articles on this topic, Google "Acute Wound Care" or visit www.AcuteWoundCare.com or call and speak with a specialist.



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Protecting Your Eyes

By David A. Goldman MD

Protecting your eyes from injury is one of the most basic things you can do to keep your vision healthy throughout your life.

You may be somewhat aware of the possible risks of eye injuries, but are you taking the easiest step of all to prevent 90 percent of those injuries: wearing the proper protective eyewear?

If you are not taking this step, you are not alone. According to a national survey by the American Academy of Ophthalmology, only 35 percent of respondents said they always wear protective eyewear when performing home repairs or maintenance; even fewer do so while playing sports.

Eye Injury Facts and Myths

- Men are more likely to sustain an eye injury than women.
- Most people believe that eye injuries are most common on the job — especially in the course of work at factories and construction sites. But, in fact, nearly half (44.7 percent) of all eye injuries occurred in the home, as reported during the fifth-annual Eye Injury Snapshot (conducted by the American Academy of Ophthalmology and the American Society of Ocular Trauma).
- More than 40 percent of eye injuries reported in the Eye Injury Snapshot were caused by projects and activities such as home repairs, yard work, cleaning and cooking. More than a third (34.2 percent) of injuries in the home occurred in living areas such as the kitchen, bedroom, bathroom, living or family room.
- More than 40 percent of eye injuries every year are related to sports or recreational activities.
- Eyes can be damaged by sun exposure, not just chemicals, dust or objects.
- Among all eye injuries reported in the Eye Injury Snapshot, more than 78 percent of people were not wearing eyewear at the time of injury. Of those reported to be wearing eyewear of some sort at the time of injury (including glasses or contact lenses), only 5.3 percent were wearing safety or sports glasses.

If you have suffered an eye injury, review these care and treatment recommendations. But most importantly, have an ophthalmologist or other medical doctor examine the eye as soon as possible, even if the injury seems minor.

For all eye injuries:

- DO NOT touch, rub or apply pressure to the eye.
- DO NOT try to remove the object stuck in the eye.
- Do not apply ointment or medication to the eye.
- See a doctor as soon as possible, preferably an ophthalmologist.

If your eye has been cut or punctured:

- Gently place a shield over the eye. The bottom of a paper cup taped to the bones surrounding the eye can serve as a shield until you get medical attention.
- DO NOT rinse with water.
- DO NOT remove the object stuck in eye.
- DO NOT rub or apply pressure to eye.
- Avoid giving aspirin, ibuprofen or other non-steroidal, anti-inflammatory drugs. These drugs thin the blood and may increase bleeding.
- After you have finished protecting the eye, see a physician immediately.

If you get a particle or foreign material in your eye:

- DO NOT rub the eye.
- Lift the upper eyelid over the lashes of your lower lid.
- Blink several times and allow tears to flush out the particle.
- If the particle remains, keep your eye closed and seek medical attention.

In case of a chemical burn to the eye:

- Immediately flush the eye with plenty of clean water
- Seek emergency medical treatment right away.

To treat a blow to the eye:

- Gently apply a small cold compress to reduce pain and swelling.
- DO NOT apply any pressure.
- If a black eye, pain or visual disturbance occurs even after a light blow, immediately contact your Eye M.D. or emergency room.
- Remember that even a light blow can cause a significant eye injury.

To treat sand or small debris in the eye:

- Use eyewash to flush the eye out.
- DO NOT rub the eye.
- If the debris doesn't come out, lightly bandage the eye and see an Eye M.D. or visit the nearest emergency room.

DAVID A. GOLDMAN



Prior to founding his own private practice, Dr. David A. Goldman served as Assistant Professor of Clinical Ophthalmology at the Bascom Palmer Eye Institute in Palm Beach Gardens. Within the first of his five years of employment there, Dr. Goldman quickly became the highest volume surgeon. He has been recognized as one of the top 250 US surgeons by Premier Surgeon, as well as being awarded a Best Doctor and Top Ophthalmologist.

Dr. Goldman received his Bachelor of Arts cum laude and with distinction in all subjects from Cornell University and Doctor of Medicine with distinction in research from the Tufts School of Medicine. This was followed by a medical internship at Mt. Sinai – Cabrini Medical Center in New York City. He then completed his residency and cornea fellowship at the Bascom Palmer Eye Institute in Miami, Florida. Throughout his training, he received multiple awards including 2nd place in the American College of Eye Surgeons Bloomberg memorial national cataract competition, nomination for the Ophthalmology Times writer's award program, 2006 Paul Kayser International Scholar, and the American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery (ASCRS) research award in 2005, 2006, and 2007. Dr. Goldman currently serves as councilor from ASCRS to the American Academy of Ophthalmology. In addition to serving as an examiner for board certification, Dr. Goldman also serves on committees to revise maintenance of certification exams for current ophthalmologists.

Dr. Goldman's clinical practice encompasses medical, refractive, and non-refractive surgical diseases of the cornea, anterior segment, and lens. This includes, but is not limited to, corneal transplantation, microincisional cataract surgery, and LASIK. His research interests include advances in cataract and refractive technology, dry eye management, and internet applications of ophthalmology.

Dr. Goldman speaks English and Spanish.

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Four years ago this very month I found myself in what was seemingly a perpetual series of events that turned our world upside down. It was one of the most difficult times of my life. In a very short span of a couple of weeks I found myself having been betrayed by people I love very much, criticized, and even cast out. My family experienced the loss of a loved one. And I was without a ministry home – in between jobs.

I needed a breakthrough. I needed the clouds to separate just for a moment so I could make it through the rainstorm of life. I was on the edge of chaos in my life and I needed to keep moving forward. I was faced with a choice: would I give up and stop pursuing God? Or would I press on? Truthfully... I wasn't so sure.

But I knew I had a choice.

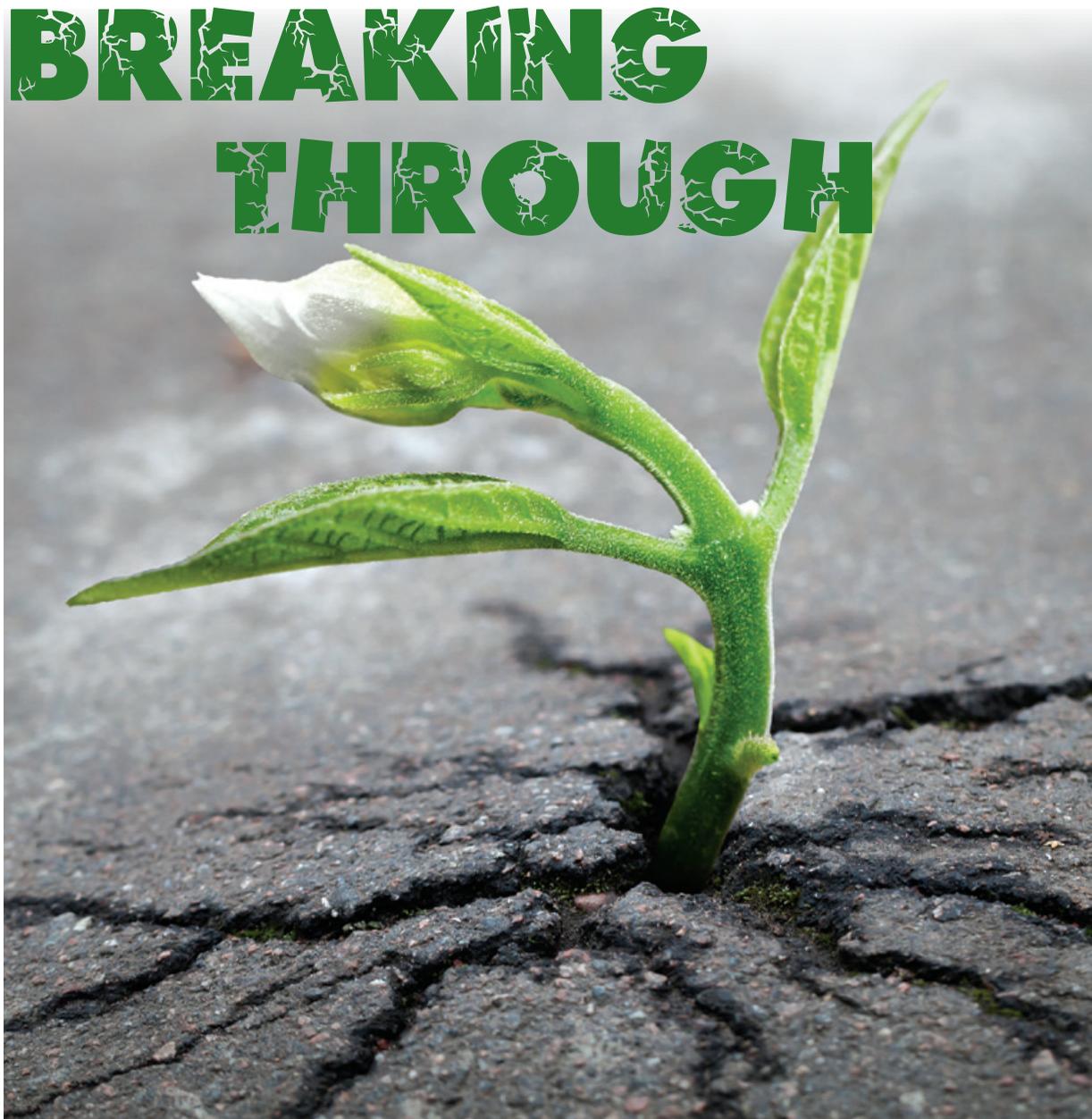
Looking back I've learned that there are four things we can do when needing a breakthrough.

1. DON'T HAVE ALL THE ANSWERS. It's OK to not know why... to not know how... to not know when... God desires for our hearts to be open and honest – to realize that we may never have all the answers. Jesus said, “blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.” (Matthew 5:3) God can much better fill an empty vessel.

2. LISTEN. Once we get to a place where we admit we don't know it all, then we go looking and listening to the One Who does. “For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.” (Hebrews 4:12). The Bible is God's resource for daily living. It can cut through all the garbage and give us the direction we need.

3. WRITE IT DOWN. When we listen and take heed to what God is saying, I recommend writing it down because I can almost guarantee that at some point, you're going to question whether or not that really happened. Keep a journal of the times you choose to break through. If the Creator of the universe is willing to speak, I should be willing to take notes.

BREAKING THROUGH



4. DO IT. Now the hard part: move on. Whatever you choose to break through, then now get to it. Sitting around waiting for circumstances to be perfect will result in never doing anything because they'll never be perfect. Get to it!

These are the steps that worked for me to experience the breakthrough I longed for during that unbelievable tough time two years ago. I'm grateful today because I can now see the good and the “better” that God had for us on the other side of the tough times.

No matter what you're going through remember this: “And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose... For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.” (Romans 8:28, 38-39)

Brent Myers

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