Dry Eye and GVHD: BostonSight® PROSE Treatment Can Help

“MY BONE MARROW transplant gave me back my life. But I wasn’t able to enjoy that life until I got PROSE.”

— Robert Strom, patient, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center
GVHD AND THE EYE

Each year, more than 25,000 patients worldwide received stem cell or bone marrow transplants from donors other than themselves (allogeneic). Approximately half of these patients develop a complication called chronic graft versus host disease (GVHD). GVHD is a condition in which T cells from the donor graft recognize the host’s tissues as foreign and mount an immunologic attack.

60 - 70% of patients with chronic GVHD develop ocular GVHD. Symptoms include blurry vision, dry eye, burning, gritty sensation, pain and light sensitivity.

Currently there is no cure for ocular chronic GVHD — but there is relief.

BOSTONSIGHT PROSE TREATMENT

Thousands of patients with ocular chronic GVHD have had their visual function restored and quality of life transformed with BostonSight PROSE (prosthetic replacement of the ocular surface ecosystem) treatment. During BostonSight PROSE treatment, doctors custom design FDA approved prosthetic devices to replace or support damaged ocular functions; improving vision and reducing pain and light sensitivity. BostonSight PROSE is available at a growing number of top-ranked academic medical centers and clinics across the United States.

The prosthetic devices used in PROSE treatment are transparent domes, about the size of a nickel, made of gas permeable plastic that allows oxygen to reach the ocular surface.

PROSE devices fit under the eyelids and rest on the sclera (the relatively insensitive white tissue of the eye), vaulting the damaged cornea and creating a new smooth optical surface that protects the eye from the environment and blink trauma. The removable prosthetic devices are filled with saline at the time of application, creating a reservoir of fluid that continuously bathes the eye in oxygenated artificial tears.

"THE FIRST TIME I put in the PROSE device it was this incredible, instant relief. I couldn’t believe it!"
— GVHD patient
BENEFITS

BostonSight PROSE treatment can:

• Reduce symptoms and support healing by restoring a healthy ocular surface environment
• Improve blurry vision by masking surface corneal irregularities and transmitting a sharp image to the back of the eye
• Prevent further damage by protecting the cornea against the environment and eyelids

SYMPTOMS AND TREATMENT SUCCESS

In 2010, BostonSight conducted an online survey of more than 1,000 people with corneal disease, the majority of whom suffer with dry eye.

SYMPTOMS

For the 51 respondents diagnosed with ocular GVHD, including 41 PROSE patients:

• 96% had moderate or severe pain
• 87% had difficulty reading regular print newspapers, magazines or websites
• 80% had difficulty with work or hobbies that require seeing up close
• 77% had light sensitivity
• 75% had trouble driving at night

TREATMENT SUCCESS

When asked about success with a variety of treatments:

• 0% had significant success with oral antibiotics, fish oil or flax seed oil
• 0% with topical immunosuppression (Restasis / cyclosporine)
• 0% with punctal plugs
• 0% with topical steroids
• 7% with artificial tears, lubricant gel or lubricant ointment

76% had significant success with BostonSight PROSE treatment

“MY QUALITY OF LIFE improved a great deal...Now, I can watch TV, read and work, which I could not do before because of the constant discomfort in my eyes.”
— GVHD patient
BOSTONSIGHT NETWORK

BostonSight PROSE treatment is available through a growing network of top-ranked academic medical centers and clinics across the U.S. Each provider site is independently operated, managing their own scheduling and insurance and providing ongoing care.

BostonSight PROSE treatment teams include cornea specialist ophthalmologists, and optometrists who have completed a BostonSight PROSE Clinical Fellowship. Clinical Fellows use a proprietary DTF® CAD/CAM system to design each device precisely to the patient’s unique eye shape. All devices are manufactured at BostonSight’s state-of-the-art lab.

BostonSight PROSE doctors work with patients, their support systems, and other medical providers to understand each patient’s specific needs and reach treatment goals together.

ABOUT BOSTONSIGHT

BostonSight, located in Needham, MA, is a world renowned nonprofit eye healthcare organization. It’s mission is to improve the quality of life for patients and their families by transforming the understanding, treatment and care of complex corneal disease.

Since 1992, BostonSight has restored sight to thousands of patients from around the world.

To learn more please visit www.bostonsight.org.

SCHEDULE A CONSULTATION

For more information or to set up a consultation, visit www.bostonsight.org/consult.

INSURANCE COVERAGE

Many major insurance carriers cover PROSE treatment and services. Financial assistance may be available for those who qualify. Check with your local BostonSight Network Clinic.

FOR PHYSICIAN REFERRALS

To refer a patient for treatment at BostonSight, Needham, MA, visit www.bostonsight.org/referrals.

To refer a patient to another BostonSight Network Clinic, visit www.bostonsight.org/referrals-providers.
BOSTONSIGHT NETWORK

ALKEK EYE CENTER
Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX

BASCOM PALMER EYE INSTITUTE
University of Miami, Plantation, FL

BOSTONSIGHT
Needham, MA

BROOKE ARMY MEDICAL CENTER
San Antonio, TX

FLAUM EYE INSTITUTE
University of Rochester, Rochester, NY

ILLINOIS EYE AND EAR INFIRMARY
University of Illinois College of Medicine, Chicago, IL

KELLOGG EYE CENTER
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI

MASSACHUSETTS EYE AND EAR
Boston, MA

NORTHWELL HEALTH
Great Neck, NY

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
San Francisco, CA

USC ROSKI EYE INSTITUTE
University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA

WEILL CORNELL EYE ASSOCIATES
Weill Cornell Medical College, New York, NY

WILMER EYE INSTITUTE
at Johns Hopkins, Baltimore, MD

The BostonSight Network is always expanding.
Visit www.bostonsight.org/providers.