

# WHO IS FCI?



# **DO YOUR EYES FEEL...**

**SORE?** 

**SCRATCHY?** 

DRY?

If you experience sore, scratchy, or dry eyes, or find your vision is a bit blurry or sensitive to light, you may be suffering from Dry Eye syndrome. It is very important that you ask your ophthalmologist or optometrist for a proper diagnosis and treatment.

Your eye care professional will check your eyes using a variety of tests to determine whether or not you suffer from Dry Eye syndrome.

Recommended treatment is often short or long-term punctal occlusion, using punctal plugs from FCI. This treatment works by keeping your moisturizing tears on the eye.

For over 40 years, FCI has been committed to delivering eye care professionals and patients with innovative treatment solutions for a wide range of eye conditions, including Dry Eye syndrome.

As a leader in temporary and permanent punctal plugs, FCI offers some of the most widely used options worldwide, including SnugPlug®, Tearsaver®, and Prolong® plugs.

Be sure to consult your eye care professional to see if you are a candidate, and explore the full range of FCI punctal plug options to treat your Dry Eye.









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**READ ME!** 

### WHAT IS DRY EYE?

Dry Eye is a condition caused by the production of low quantity or poor quality of tears resulting in eye irritation and vision problems.

Your eyes are delicately balanced eco-systems in which tears play a large and important role. Every time you blink, tears form a coating that protects and nourishes the eye's surface. When tear production is reduced, your eyes feel dry, scratchy and irritated.

Ironically, the tear producing glands sometimes react to the dry, scratchy feeling by watering. Unfortunately, these "reflex tears" do not relieve the dryness because they lack a natural component that is essential to lubricating the cornea properly.

# WHAT ARE THE SYMPTOMS?

- Stinging, scratching or burning eyes
- Blurred vision, especially when you read
- Red or irritated eyes, especially when there's wind or smoke
- · Sensation of having more tears than usual
- Mucous secretions in the eye
- Sensitivity to bright lights

# Why is treating dry eye so important?

If left untreated, Dry Eye can lead to several eye issues such as conjunctivitis (also known as "pink eye") or corneal inflammation.

# WHAT CAUSES DRY EYE?

The most common causes of Dry Eye include:

#### **Contact Lenses**



In the long term, wearing contact lenses increases the risk of tear evaporation which can lead to irritation, infection, and pain.

#### **Environmental Conditions**

- Smoke
- Dust
- Wind
- Makeup
- Pollution
- Air conditioning
- Sun exposure
- Activities that reduce blinking: computer use, reading, etc.

## Aging and Hormonal Changes



- Aging: as we grow older, our eyes produce fewer lubricating tears.
- Hormonal changes: due to pregnancy, menopause, or use of hormone-related medications, women are more likely to develop Dry Eye.

#### **Medications**

Common medications, such as decongestants, allergy drugs, blood pressure medications, beta-blockers, sleeping pills,



anti-depressants, and pain relievers, can lead to decreased tear secretion. Frequent use of eye drops or artificial tears can also aggravate Dry Eye conditions.

## **FCI SOLUTIONS**

Dry Eye treatment varies according to symptom severity, underlying cause and more. One way to treat Dry Eye is for your eye care professional to close the tear ducts with tiny plugs, allowing tears to remain on the eye much longer. FCI offers a variety of permanent and temporary punctal plugs that can work alone or in conjunction with other treatments.

#### **FCI Permanent Solutions**

- SNUGPLUG® is a "one-size-fits-most" plug used by over a million patients worldwide.
- TEARSAVER® plugs are permanent yet removable.

#### Both types offer:

- quick, efficient, and comfortable insertion
- fit well against the eyelid margin
- can stay in place for as long as you need them
- can be easily removed by your doctor at any time

# **Temporary Treatment**

- FCI PROLONG® Dx is a plug indicated for use in the diagnosis of Dry Eye and to assess the potential effectiveness of permanent puntal occlusion. It dissolves within 5 days.
- FCI PROLONG® is a plug made of absorbable copolymer and is ideal to treat temporary dry eye conditions pre- and post-LASIK and other ocular surgeries. It absorbs within 3 months.
- FCI PROLONG®+ is a plug indicated for use in Dry Eye syndrome resulting from seasonal allergies, eye-related surgery or contact lens wear. It is made of a copolymer and absorbs within 6 months.