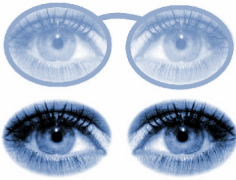


Changing 100 lives in 100 minutes



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Dr. Chu helped to change 100 lives in 100 minutes

EDINA, MN – In just 100 minutes on April 9, the lives of 100 low-income people in cities and towns across the country were changed forever as their failing eyesight went from murky to new-found clarity at all distances with crystalens cataract-lens implants... free of charge.

Dr. Y. Ralph Chu, founder and medical director of Chu Vision Institute in Edina, was among a select group of ophthalmologists nationwide to participate in this unique program – Changing 100 Lives in 100 Minutes – which not only dramatically improved patients' eyesight, but also meant many of them would never need eyeglasses again.

Bausch & Lomb, which manufactures the innovative crystalens intraocular lens for cataracts, donated 100 pairs of these lenses – generally not covered by private insurance or Medicare. Then, from coast to coast, 100 participating ophthalmologists... including Chu... performed crystalens implantation surgeries simultaneously during the one hour and 40 minutes... at no additional charge.

This national effort began promptly at 7:30 a.m. Eastern daylight time with the implantation of the 100,000 crystalens. Crystalens is the only intraocular lens that uses eye muscles to focus in much the same way as the eye's natural lens, and is designed to provide clear vision at all distances... near, intermediate and far.

The 100,000 crystalens surgery was performed by Dr. James P. Gills, founder of St. Luke's Cataract & Laser Institute in Tarpon Springs, Fl.

Chu is a fellowship-trained corneal specialist whose practice focuses on refractive, cataract and corneal surgery. He received his medical degree from Northwestern University Medical School in Chicago and completed his internship at Evanston Hospital. He served his ophthalmology residency at Duke University Eye Center and a one-year fellowship in Minneapolis concentrating on cornea and external disease; refractive, cataract and lens-implant surgeries; and glaucoma.

As a certified VISX trainer, Chu has instructed thousands of physicians in refractive surgery techniques. He has participated in 24 clinical evaluations and 14 FDA studies dealing with cataract-, intraocular and phakic-lens implantations; laser vision correction technologies; and ocular therapeutic treatments.

The crystalens design is based on the human eye and uses the eye muscle to focus on objects at all distances. It is the only lens to use the eye's natural focusing ability and is the first and only such lens to be approved by the FDA. Few crystalens patients have experienced problems with night vision, halos or glare.

"Typically, crystalens lenses are available only as an elective upgrade to conventional lenses paid for by government programs or private insurance," says Chu. "The crystalens has been an extraordinary success, and we wanted to help share this wonderful technology with people who usually couldn't afford it."



Dr. Chu performing crystalens surgery.



*Immediately after surgery,
Dr. Chu with patient, B. Wolff.*