

How Well Does Laser Trabeculoplasty (LT) Work?



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Laser Trabeculoplasty
(LT) Work?**

ALT vs. SLT vs. MLT for **GLAUCOMA**

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Argon Laser Trabeculoplasty (ALT)

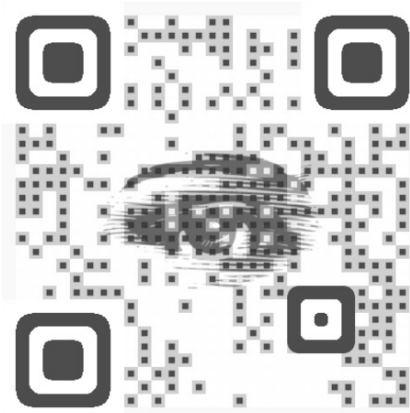
Argon Laser Trabeculoplasty (ALT) successfully lowers the intraocular pressure (IOP) in just over 80% of the eyes that receive this treatment.^[1] IOP lowering may not be realized for up to a month after the treatment. On average the IOP is reduced by 6-9mmHg.^[2] Unfortunately, the effect does not last. After a few years additional treatment is generally needed to lower the IOP.^[3]

Selective Laser Trabeculoplasty (SLT)

Selective Laser Trabeculoplasty (SLT) success is dependent upon how much of the trabecular meshwork is treated. When only half of the trabecular meshwork is treated (180 degrees) SLT successfully lowers the intraocular pressure (IOP) 65% of the time with an average reduction in IOP of just over 4mmHg (range of 2 to 18mmHg).^[4] However, when a full 360 degree treatment is applied the IOP can be expected to be reduced in almost all eyes by 11-40%.^[5] In general SLT appears to work as well as ALT.^[6]

Micropulse Laser Trabeculoplasty (MLT)

Although this is relatively new technology, it does appear promising. Initial studies (though small) demonstrated reductions in IOP and need for medications that are similar to those seen with ALT.^[7] Larger studies are underway.



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