

## Who Should Consider Glaucoma Treatments Other Than Laser Trabeculoplasty (LT)?

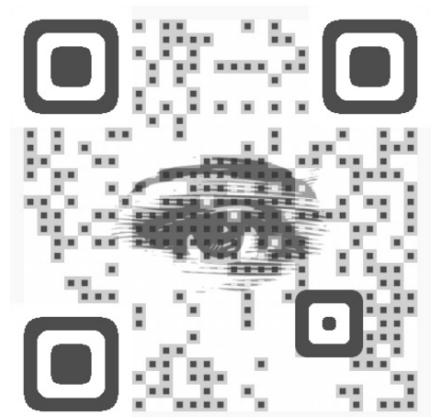
**Laser Trabeculoplasty**, by definition, requires that the trabecular meshwork be visible in order to apply laser to it. Those with closed or scarred angles cannot expect to benefit from this treatment. Because Argon Laser Trabeculoplasty results in post-operative inflammation it is generally not recommended for those who already have active inflammation (iritis, uveitis) in the eye.<sup>[1]</sup> Selective Laser Trabeculoplasty (SLT), however, may be considered even in those with a history of inflammation in the eye.<sup>[2]</sup> Laser Trabeculoplasty is also not expected to benefit those with angle-recession glaucoma (usually seen after trauma to the eye) or in infant and childhood glaucomas.<sup>[3]</sup> Finally, its effect may be limited in eyes that have had multiple prior glaucoma operations.

The response to Laser Trabeculoplasty appears to be dependent upon the pre-treatment intraocular pressure (IOP). In other words, **the higher the IOP before treatment, the better the response to Laser Trabeculoplasty.**<sup>[4]</sup> For example, Laser Trabeculoplasty can only be expected to lower the IOP by 14-16% in those with Normal Tension Glaucoma.<sup>[5]</sup> At the other extreme, when the pre-treatment IOP is higher than 30mmHg Laser Trabeculoplasty is more likely to fail.<sup>[6]</sup> Thus, patients with an IOP greater than 30mmHg may not be the best candidates for Laser Trabeculoplasty.

**Don't delay getting checked for glaucoma.** Make an appointment with an eye doctor in your area now. If you live in the greater Los Angeles area and would like [Dr. Richardson](#) to evaluate your eyes for glaucoma call [626-289-7856](tel:626-289-7856) now. Same day or next day appointments are available Tuesday through Saturday.

### References:

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## Comments

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