



Continually Expanding Services in Eye Banking, Surgical Training, Research and Development

Lions World Vision Institute (LWVI) is the largest combined eye bank and research center in the world. As a nonprofit, LWVI focuses on innovating and collaborating with our surgical partners worldwide to streamline cornea transplant procedures and improve clinical outcomes.

Our work encompasses donor family and recipient support, advanced tissue preparation for transplant, innovative research and technology development, eye bank and surgical training programs, pediatric vision services, and community-based education in local and international communities for the visually impaired. With our worldwide ecosystem of eye banks, surgeons, and research leaders, we work tirelessly to honor each donor's gift by protecting and supporting sight restoration for hundreds of thousands of people—transforming lives around the world... so the world can see.

What Drives Us

Our proprietary cornea processing techniques and innovative preloaded services honor donors and their families by elevating standards in sight restoration. Our continuous commitment to research and clinical development has enabled us to streamline surgical procedures and improve clinical outcomes.

Rich Traditions. Strong Foundations.

Founded in 1969 under the sponsorship of local Lions Clubs, Lions World Vision Institute (LWVI) has long been a leader in research, development, and education in corneal tissue recovery, processing and transplantation. But our roots go back much further, to June 30, 1925, when Helen Keller addressed the Lions Clubs International Convention in Cedar Point, Ohio. It was during her historic speech that Lions International found its mission when she asked, "Will you not constitute yourselves Knights of the Blind in this crusade against darkness?" LWVI continues to honor Keller's challenge to the Lions Clubs by advancing surgical techniques and developing services to support surgeons and help them adapt new and more effective procedures. LWVI has since become the largest non-profit distributor of ocular tissue worldwide with East and West Coast operations.

Eye Bank Services

As an accredited member of the Eye Bank Association of America, LWVI is dedicated to preparing and providing the highest quality ocular tissue for transplantation and a full range of sterile allografts designed for the latest techniques in cornea and glaucoma care. By setting new standards, LWVI leads the industry in innovation. Proprietary tissue processing combined with TransplantREADY® preloaded services streamlines procedures, minimizes endothelial cell loss, and promotes improved clinical outcomes.

Research and Clinical Development

Our extensive collaboration with leading ophthalmologists has led to numerous ground-breaking innovations in tissue preparation and endothelial keratoplasty, which have restored sight and quality of life to thousands each year. LWVI is proud to have developed numerous innovative tissue preparations and technologies that streamline cornea transplantation and improve clinical outcomes, including the following innovations:

- Preloaded DSAEK in an EndoGlide* – 2012
- No-touch DMEK hydro-dissection technique** – 2012
- Ultrathin DSAEK grafts 40-70 microns** – 2014
- Preloaded DMEK Weiss Glass Cannula – 2015
- Preloaded DMEK in a Weiss Glass Cannula – 2018
- Preloaded DMEK in an EndoGlide – 2019
- Preloaded DSAEK in a Weiss Glass Cannula – 2020
- OptiGraft® – Sterile Ophthalmic Allografts – 2020
- Pre-cut PKP** – 2021
- OptiGraft – CAIRS and Bowman's Layer Lenticules – 2023
- Preloaded Endo-In DMEK in a Weiss Glass Cannula – 2023

*published in Cornea Volume 36, Number 1, January 2017
**abstracts presented during major ophthalmology conferences

The Weiss Glass Cannula is registered with the FDA as a generic manual ophthalmic surgical instrument, which is a Class I device exempt from premarket review by FDA.

Founding Member of the One World Sight Alliance (OWSA)

Online tissue management portal for surgeons and eye bank members

The One World Sight Alliance is a robust online communication portal that connects us to 28 U.S. eye bank members to fulfill ocular tissue requests across the United States and around the world. The portal facilitates and simplifies the logistics of managing tissue preferences, requests, approvals, and post-op reporting. Upon registering with OWSA, surgeons can access this unparalleled source of corneal tissue and handle all aspects of tissue management from their personal accounts. By aligning eye banks and surgeons, OWSA can maximize tissue placement to best honor each donation.

Comprehensive Cornea Services



Precision Processing Down to the Micron

TRADITIONAL PKP (full thickness)

- DSAEK** Precision prepared to your specifications – Precut, Prestained, Premarked, Prepunched
- Ultrathin 40-70 microns
 - Traditional 70-100+ microns

- DMEK** Precision prepared to your specifications – Precut, Prestained, Premarked, Prepunched
- 10-15 microns

- ALK/DALK** Precision prepared to your specifications

TransplantREADY® Cornea Services

Preloaded DMEK, DSAEK

Precut, Prestained, Premarked, Prepunched, Preloaded

- DMEK delivery devices options: Weiss Glass Cannula and EndoGlide
- DSAEK delivery devices options: Weiss Glass Cannula and EndoGlide
- Pre-cut PKP to your specifications

OptiGraft® – Sterile Ophthalmic Allografts

Cornea and Glaucoma applications

- Whole moon, full thickness
- Whole moon, split thickness
- Half Moon, split thickness
- Bowman's Layer Lenticules
- Dua Layer Lenticules
- CAIRS – Cornea Allograft Intrastromal Ring Segments
- Sclera – 10mm disk, quarter and third



Lions World Vision Institute Foundation

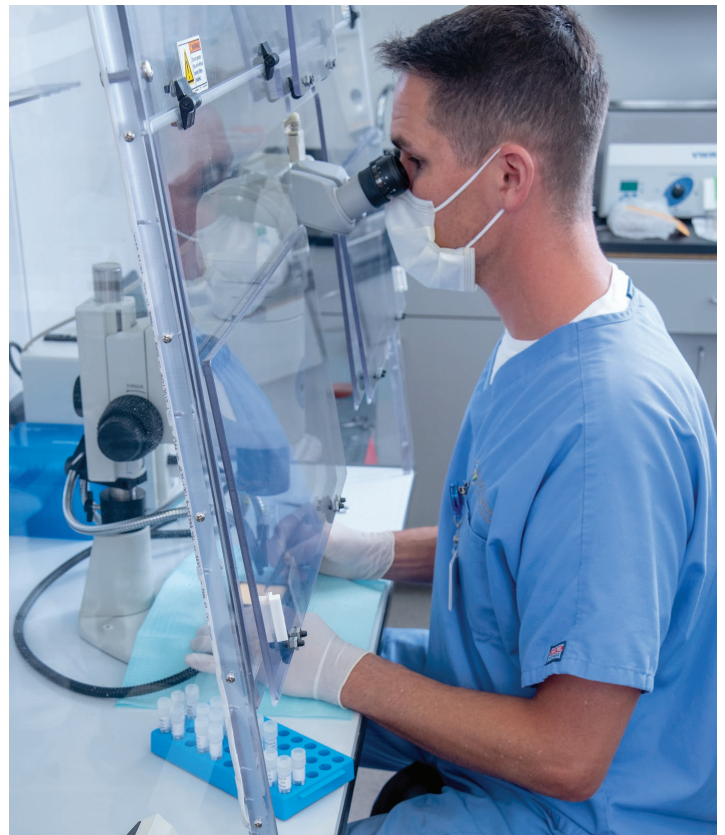
The Lions World Vision Institute Foundation raises funds to support LWVI's mission and its programs to restore sight.

Gratis Ocular Tissue Program

Among the initiatives funded by the LWVI Foundation is our Gratis Ocular Tissue Program, which allows us to partner with surgeons to provide sight-restoring surgery to patients without insurance or financial resources. The program is supported by the Foundation through funds raised from events and contributions. Through the generosity of our supporters, our organization is able to help hundreds of people all over the world receive the gift of sight.

Surgical Training Programs

Our global surgical training programs introduce advanced surgical procedures using our proprietary cornea processing and delivery systems. Faculty members bring their expertise to our many training modalities offered to surgeons around the world, ranging from remote wet labs to multi-day courses. Participating surgeons master the latest surgical techniques and emerge with immediately transferable skills that provide better visual outcomes for their patients.



The Ocular Research Center at Lions World Vision Institute

Supplying Critical Research Requests

The Ocular Research Center strives to meet the challenging need for new treatments of ophthalmic diseases. Our ocular research team works tirelessly to arrest and cure blinding eye diseases by collaborating with industry and leading institutions to develop groundbreaking new pre-clinical research models. Our one-of-a-kind research facility has dedicated laboratories and equipment for real-time studies of healthy and diseased ocular tissue and the flexibility and resources to meet the most exacting and time-sensitive research parameters.



LWVI Surgeon Training Center provides a dedicated space and state-of-the-art equipment to host surgeons in Tampa or stream live with surgeons around the world.

Since our founding in 1969, our initiatives and partnerships have made it possible for 500,000 men, women, and children around the world to receive the gift of sight.



Surgeon Training & Events



Surgeon Registration Form

For additional information contact our team at contact@LWVI.org



LIONS
WORLD VISION
INSTITUTE™

So the world can see.

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