## Optical Express provides strong presence at ASCRS Annual Meeting

## **Optical Express**

Vision for a better life

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Author: Optical Express
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Optical Express' chief medical director Steve Schallhorn, in addition to several other Optical Express surgeons and International Medical Advisory Board (IMAB) members, have attended and presented at the American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery (ASCRS) annual meeting.

The Symposium on Cataract, IOL and Refractive Surgery segment of the meeting brought together ASCRS members from across the globe to learn about and discuss the newest trends and technologies in the field of refractive surgery.

Mr Schallhorn presented findings from a number of different studies, in particular one highlighting the results of a study on corneal thickness. The presentation, titled 'Should we perform LASIK on thin corneas?' discussed how performing LASIK on patients with thin corneas is safe and effective. Mr Schallhorn's research involved 81,715 eyes, a virtually unprecedented amount in the field. He also presented a poster titled 'Patient Satisfaction After LASIK: Analysis of More Than 15,000 Patients', which discussed the high level of patient satisfaction achieved after modern LASIK.

Optical Express' UK medical director Professor Jan Venter was also a presenter at the conference. Prof Venter discussed exciting research comparing different techniques to perform enhancements. Miss Susanna Boytha, one of the <u>Optical Express surgeons</u>, presented as well, assessing various methods of flap creation in <u>LASIK</u> surgery.

Members of <u>Optical Express' IMAB</u> were also actively involved as panellists and speakers. John Vukich, Steven Dell, Marguerite McDonald, Michael Knorz, Colman Kraff, Stephen Coleman and Stephen Slade all presented findings of their current and recent research.

"The extensive presence of Optical Express Surgeons and IMAB members at international meetings really underscores the valuable role that we perform not only for the refractive surgery community but also the public that we serve," Mr. Schallhorn said. "It is clear that we are not only the largest provider of refractive surgery in Europe - we're also leaders in terms of technological developments and pushing the community forward in terms of safety, effectiveness, and outstanding clinical outcomes."

The ASCRS was founded in 1974 to encourage discussion and dissemination of information between ophthalmologists relating to refractive surgery. In addition to the annual meeting and symposium, the society produces a number of regular publications, including the Journal of Refractive Surgery. In July 2009, Optical Express published a supplement in the journal, the first of its kind by a corporate provider. The ASCRS also provides members with various resources and research fellowships, and works to further ophthalmic research, public education, and awareness in developing countries.

## About Optical Express:

The Optical Express Group was founded in 1991 and is now a global leader of selected healthcare services, specialising in opticians services. The group covers optical stores, refractive <u>laser eye surgery</u>, <u>cataract surgery</u>, glasses, contact lenses as well as dental clinics.

Optical Express provides trained specialists to help patients determine which laser eye surgery treatment is best suited to their unique needs and offers the most advanced eye surgery treatments such as LASEK and LASIK eye surgery as well as Advanced CustomVue Wavefront and Intralase.

Optical Express is the leading provider of laser eye surgery in the UK and Europe, with over 100 laser eye clinics including laser eye surgery in London and opticians offering pre and post-operative care.

## For more information, please contact:

Lindsay Taylor
Marketing & Communications
5 Deerdykes Road
Westfield Industrial Estate
Cumbernauld
Glasgow
G68 9HF
+44 (0)1236 723 300
uk.opticalexpress.com

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