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Abstract

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Glaucoma: Web Site Format

By

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A thesis submitted to the faculty of **the**
College of Optometry, Pacific University

Forest Grove OR

May 2001

Advisor: Robert L. Yolton

Website "Glaucoma"

As a technological age surges forward optometry is forced to offer the newest and latest procedures, **equipment** and information to keep up with the demands of the patient. The average patient no longer depends solely on the little brochure the doctor hands out to describe a disease, they look it up on the internet to find a bank of information about treatments, help groups, specialist, and alternative therapy. Optometrists not willing to keep up with progression slowly fall to the wayside as patients seek doctors offering the greatest standard of care. I have created a **website** to keep up with today's technology, gain a greater understanding of a disease that millions of Americans face everyday, and to share that information with others.

Glaucoma is a blanket statement for a disease with a variety of presentations. I didn't cover all the possible glaucomas or therapies but **hopefully** one will have a better understanding of the mechanics involved with it **after** surfing my **website**. Continued research showed actually how dynamic glaucoma can be, but is basically broken down into two main **categories** (**primary** or **secondary**) by the cause of the glaucomatous changes. I outlined a couple varieties in each category to give the reader a better feel for glaucoma. Although there are more varieties of glaucoma the mechanics are **similar** which should give the patient or doctor the knowledge they need to understand the nature of glaucoma.

Treatments need to be specific for each patient; listed is a general **over** view of the classes of drugs used in treatment of glaucoma. If a doctor has any question in the treatment regimen for his patient **he/she** should refer it to a **specialist**. Because of the variety of presentations, glaucoma patients will need a **complete** work up and case history

in order to prescribe the most appropriate therapy. Noting that some therapies are not to be used as an initial treatment and are contradicted for that patient.

Finding information on glaucoma was the easy part of this project, putting it together so that it could be accessed on the World Wide Web was a slow learning process. The layperson can easily surf the Internet, but creating a website takes a little courage and a wealth of time. I used FrontPage 2000 to assist me; there are other brands for sale, which I am sure work just as good. With no prior experience of web publishing I found *Running FrontPage 2000* to be indispensable, but when putting it all together trial and error dominates the learn process. As I progressed and became more comfortable using MS FrontPage the more dynamic my site became. Continued effort and use is needed on my part to maintain this new knowledge.

The knowledge that I gained by fooling around with my computer is invaluable to me. The skills I have acquired can be used in the future to market me as an optometrist, publish papers, sell product to the public and inform the public. Being a AOA member there is a Code of Ethics in which members follow I feel that my website exemplifies three main points: To promote in every possible way better care of visual needs of mankind; To maintain their offices and their practices in keeping with professional standards; To promote and maintain cordial and unselfish relationships with members of their own profession and of other professions for the exchange of information to the advantage of mankind.