

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Eugene, Ore. – Local ophthalmologists **Drs. I. Howard Fine, Richard Hoffman and Mark Packer** have been selected to conduct the first course in the world demonstrating a new technique in cataract surgery they helped develop at Eugene's Oregon Eye Institute.

Bimanual micro-incision cataract surgery is a treatment modality that allows surgeons to remove a cataract using incisions as small as 1.2 millimeters (0.048 inch). At less than half of the customary cataract incision, these micro-incisions make surgery potentially less invasive for the patient population.

As early innovators in the evolution and development of this new technique, technology and instrumentation, Drs. Fine, Hoffman and Packer were selected to present their material to a group of high-profile surgeons from throughout Europe and North America. Scheduled for August 23 at Eugene's Oregon Eye Institute, this first-ever course will assist cataract surgeons in transitioning to the new methodology and will include lectures, live surgery and the examination of post-operative patients.

This is not the first time that Drs. Fine, Hoffman and Packer have used techniques and instrumentation they perfected here in Eugene to advance eye surgery worldwide. Dr. Fine has designed more than 37 surgical instruments and techniques and has demonstrated his innovative surgical techniques in more than 30 countries. In recognition of these and other accomplishments, he was named one of the 25 most influential ophthalmologists of the Twentieth Century by a vote of 16,000 ophthalmologists worldwide.

In addition, Dr. Packer was the first surgeon in the western United States to perform Laser Assisted Deep Sclerectomy, an advanced surgical procedure for glaucoma. These Eugene ophthalmologists were also among the first physicians in the country to treat patients with a new intraocular lens implant and successfully performed Lane County's first amniotic membrane transplant. All three hold clinical appointments as faculty at the Oregon Health & Science University.

The August 23 event at the Oregon Eye Institute is co-sponsored by Advanced Medical Optics, Inc. (AMO), a global leader in the development, manufacturing and marketing of ophthalmic surgical and contact lens care products.

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