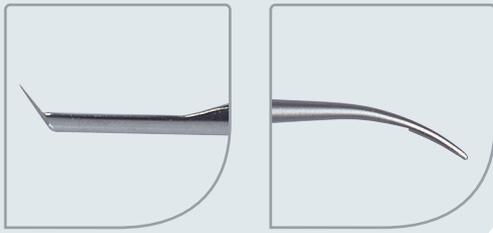


#20010 LASIK Enhancement Cleaver



My Technique

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LASIK retreatment: atraumatically loosening and lifting an existing LASIK flap

Indications for LASIK enhancement after a corneal refractive surgery are various (from several days to several years after surgery) and account for a significant part of our refractive activity. As easy as it could be, loosening, then lifting an “old” LASIK flap without tearing it can sometimes be a tricky step, especially when the flap was initially created with a femtosecond laser.

We present here a simple and easy method to lift LASIK flaps without inducing unexpected epithelial ingrowth. Epithelial ingrowth is a serious complication that may make surgeons reluctant to perform enhancements and opt for other approaches, such as “Intra-Flap LASIK” or surface ablation, but each also has its own drawbacks.

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I) TECHNIQUE

We use a specifically designed spatula to loosen and lift an existing LASIK flap: the “**LASIK Enhancement Cleaver**” (Moria SA, Antony, France)(reference 20010).

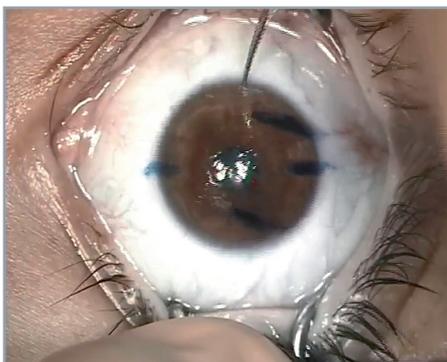
Material:

The double-ended LASIK cleaver has:

- (1) one thin tip for entering underneath an existing cleavage plane
- (2) one tip with semi-sharp lateral edges to effectively cut tissue bridges.

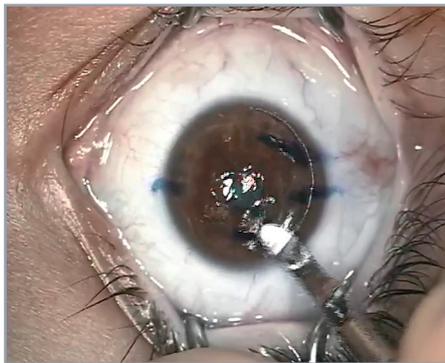
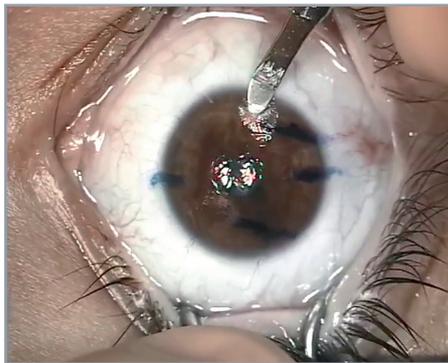


Step 1: Cleaving, then re-opening the LASIK flap



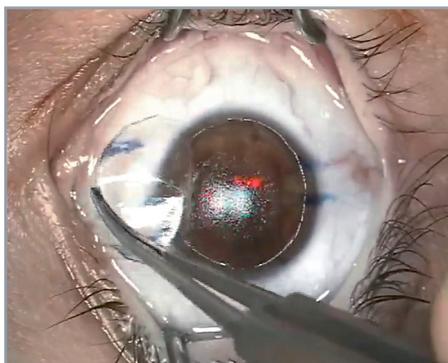
Thin tip (1) allows the surgeon to gently enter underneath the cleavage plane of an existing LASIK flap without damaging the surrounding tissue (stroma and epithelium).

Step 2: Lateral dissection of the fibrous ring without incising the adjoining stroma



The other tip has semi-sharp lateral edges and a smooth/polished head that does not cut the adjoining stroma.

Step 3: Atraumatically lifting the LASIK flap



Once the cleavage plane has been identified and the flap edges loosened, the LASIK flap can be lifted without risk of tearing any tissue.

II) RESULTS

LASIK flap edges remain as sharp, precise, and regular as previously. Consecutive photoablation using the excimer laser can now start.

III) CONCLUSION

Lifting an existing LASIK flap for enhancement, feared in the past, has now become a simple, accurate technique thanks to the use of newest dedicated spatula from Moria.

I would recommend it as part of armamentarium of every refractive practice.

Key-words:

LASIK flap, enhancement, cleaver/spatula

Dr. Gauthier-Fournet has no financial interest in the product mentioned nor is a paid consultant for Moria.

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