

Dr. Stolte Investigator For New Soft Lens Use

An Angleton ophthalmologist has been designated the seventh surgeon in the United States to be licensed as a core investigator for a new, soft intraocular lens.

He is Dr. K. Broderick Stolte who said the new lens, manufactured by Cooper-Vision, is being tested by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). The lens is not

lenses. Now the entire procedure can be accomplished through one small incision."

According to Dr. Stolte, small incision cataract surgery offers patients the benefit of less trauma, less post-operative astigmatism, and quicker healing.

FDA requirements state that clinical investigations on new products such as the soft lens, must be performed, and pre-and post-operative information documented for study.

Dr. Stolte stressed that not every patient is a candidate for small incision surgery or the new soft, silicone lenses. Only careful pre-operative evaluation by the ophthalmologist will determine candidacy for the new procedure.

"We're seeing good results with the new, softer lenses," Dr. Stolte explained, "and we believe this new generation of IOLs will be extremely beneficial for patients."



DR. STOLTE

available to physicians outside the clinical program.

Dr. Stolte also recently was named the 28th surgeon in Texas to implant a similar lens manufactured by Staar Surgical Inc.

New technology in cataract surgery has encouraged the development of the new softer lenses that replace the conventional, harder lens. The new silicone lenses may be folded in half for insertion into a tiny 3 mm (1/8-inch) incision.

"Before the softer lenses were available," explained Dr. Stolte, "the surgeon may have been able to remove the cataract through small incision surgery (phacoemulsification), but the incision had to be widened to accommodate the width of the harder