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Jacksonville ophthalmologist Arun Gulani winning rave review for his 'Corneoplastique' approach to vision correction

by Charlie Patton

Since 1988, when he underwent an unsuccessful radial keratotomy procedure in an effort to cure his nearsightedness, 57-year-old Carlo Mysko had been hoping to find someone who could correct his problem.

Mysko, who lives in England, found his solution in Jacksonville at the Gulani Vision Institute. Jacksonville ophthalmologist Arun Gulani, who in 2004 made history as the first ophthalmologist in Florida to perform an artificial cornea transplant, has developed an approach to vision correction he calls Corneoplastique.



The approach involves “custom tailoring vision for each patient,” Gulani said. “There are 18 ways of doing Lasik surgery. There are 15 ways of doing cataract surgery. Why should I use a cookie-cutter approach?”

Gulani said a typical patient of his “had surgery but didn’t have a good outcome.”

So, like Mysko, many of his patients travel great distances to receive eye care from Gulani. In the days around Mysko’s visit in March, Gulani also treated patients from Switzerland, Russia, Australia, Hong Kong, Mexico, California and Texas

Gulani employs a 3D Scheimpflug Camera system to study the tomography of the eye. The 3D images he sees enable him to customize his approach to each patient.

“Your eye is like a camera,” Gulani said. “The brain is the organ that sees.”

Mysko said the 1988 surgery fixed the sight in his left eye but his right eye remained impaired. He found Gulani, who has written extensively about his approach, via an Internet search.

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“He has vast experience dealing with RK [radial keratotomy] patients,” Mysko said.

Gulani did cataract surgery on Mysko right eye on March 11. Two days later, Mysko reported his vision in the eye was back to 20 /20. During the procedure, Gulani also unblocked Mysko’s eyelids to treat Mysko’s dry eyes.

In February, Patrick Sparks, a minister who lives in Mexico, sought treatment from Gulani for blindness in his left eye. After Gulani successfully treated him, Sparks said Gulani “performed nothing short of a miracle.”

Gulani, who was awarded the International Gold Medal from the International Refractive and Lens Society in 2006 for his work developing Corneoplastique, has written a new book, “Corneoplastique: Art of Vision Surgery,” which has been getting rave reviews from his peers.

“Not only is he a superb surgeon with many innovative instrumentations and surgical techniques to his credit, but most remarkably, he is an original thinker,” wrote Ming Wang, professor of ophthalmology at the University of Tennessee.

“I believe this book will be a bible for the refractive cataract surgeon and an indispensable resource for our specialty,” wrote Eric Donnenfeld, president of American Society of Eye Surgery professor of ophthalmology at New York University.

“Dr. Gulani’s life work has been to elevate vision surgery to unprecedented levels,” wrote Ike K. Ahmed, professor at University of Toronto.

Gulani, who came to Jacksonville originally to head the Lasik department at what is now UF Health Jacksonville, is an inventor as well as a surgeon, having invented many of the Bausch & Lomb surgical instruments used by Lasik surgeons. And in 2006 the annual Film Festival of the American Society of Cataract & Refractive Surgery gave Gulani its award for Best Film Production for his four-minute film, “Pearls & Pitfalls,” about new techniques in Lasik surgery.