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1
          Corrective laser surgery is no longer just a dream for
                                                                    11
     a select few patients. In the last few years, it has grown
2
                                                                    23
     in popularity and is becoming common. In corrective laser
3
                                                                    35
     surgery, there are three types of surgical procedures that
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                                                                    47
5
     are being used with great success. In one procedure the
                                                                    58
     surgeon uses a scalpel to make a series of small cuts to
6
                                                                    70
     flatten the center of the cornea. In the second type of
7
                                                                    81
     surgery, a thin layer of the outer membrane of the eye is
8
                                                                    93
     scraped off. After that a laser, guided by a computer, zaps
9
                                                                    104
10
     tissue on the cornea to correct vision. In the third type
                                                                    116
     of surgery, the surgeon uses a blade to slice a thin flap
11
                                                                    128
     on the surface of the eye. This flap is pulled back and
12
                                                                    139
13
     then the laser reshapes the cornea below.
                                                                    148
          Each procedure requires an expert surgeon as well as
14
                                                                    158
15
     the finest and latest medical equipment to ensure safety
                                                                    170
16
     and success. The last two options described earlier are
                                                                    181
     the most popular and the most successful. The patient is
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                                                                    193
18
     awake during both procedures; there is very little pain or
                                                                    205
19
     discomfort with both procedures. Some complications from
                                                                    216
20
     the surgery can include a halo effect at night, sensitivity
                                                                    228
21
     to light, and eye irritation; however, most of these are
                                                                    240
22
     usually temporary.
                                                                    243
          Many people recognize that they must weigh the risks
23
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24
     against the benefits before they decide upon the type of
                                                                    266
25
     procedure that is best for their needs. The inability to
                                                                    277
26
     focus sharply for near vision is still not easily treatable
                                                                    289
27
     with these procedures. Who knows what will come next.
                                                                    300
     | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
                                                              12
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