

## **Baltimore Seniors Cataract Surgery Benefits Are Far Greater than Vision Correction**

*August is cataract awareness month. 'Vision loss in seniors often leads to social isolation, depression, mental decline and can even increase the risk of falling and hip fracture,' said Dr. Betancourt.*

July 30, 2014 (FPRC) -- 'Vision loss in seniors often leads to social isolation, depression, mental decline and can even increase the risk of falling and hip fracture,' said Dr. Betancourt as part of Baltimore Washington Eye Center's cataract awareness month campaign.

'At Baltimore Washington Eye Center sometimes we give the impression that when we perform cataract surgery and lens implants for patients that we are only concerned about vision correction. Unfortunately, that is really way too simplistic a view. Vision loss among seniors has much greater impact than just seeing,' said Cataract Surgeon Arturo Betancourt, M.D.

'When we are providing eye exams for seniors-and we see the formation of a cataract, or the patient expresses the symptoms of cataracts-we spend time to carefully explore the quality of life impact that this may be having on the patient,' commented Brad Spagnolo, M.D. a Corneal Specialist & Cataract Surgeon. 'We are very sensitive as to whether the patient is starting to experience compromise in their mobility, safety and personal living and care status-and we encourage them to share this with us. If and when they indicate a decline in their quality of life we can offer them cataract surgery and lens implants as a solution-which makes a huge improvement in their vision and ability to continue to walk, drive, read, exercise and just be out and about with family and friends,' said Dr. Spagnolo.

'Since August is Cataract Awareness Month, the cataract surgeons at Baltimore Washington Eye Center want to remind seniors to have regular eye exams and be aware of the symptoms of cataracts which may include a clouding or blurring of vision, sensitivity to light and glare, double vision or shadowing in one eye, fading or yellowing of colors and poor night vision, sometimes with haloes around lights,' explained Andrew Hammer, M.D. 'We certainly encourage them not to ignore the symptoms of cataracts or vision loss as delaying diagnosis and treatment of age-related cataracts can increase seniors' risk of both physical and psychological problems,' he noted.

Please contact Baltimore Washington Eye Center to learn more about cataracts, laser cataract surgery and lens implants or visit us at <http://www.bweyecenter.com> or <http://www.facebook.com/BaltimoreWashingtonEyeCenter> or follow our eye care blog at <http://baltimorewashingtoneyecenter.blogspot.com>.

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<http://www.aboutcataractsurgery.com>

<http://www.seewithlasik.com>

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