SELECTIVE LASER TRABECULOPLASTY

What is a Selective Laser Trabeculoplasty?
Dr. Anderson may order a SLT (Selective Laser Trabeculoplasty) for the treatment of glaucoma. The Selective Laser Trabeculoplasty is an advancement over other lasers and has been used safely and effectively for a number of years in the treatment of open angle glaucoma.

The SLT procedure involves instilling a Tetracaine freezing drop in the eye, followed by the placement of a lens in your eye. The lens is used to focus the light coming from the laser. The SLT laser works by using laser light to stimulate the body’s own healing response to lower your eye pressure. Using a special wavelength and energy, the laser affects only the pigmented, or melanin-containing, cells of your eye. The SLT then improves the flow of fluid in the eye, which in turn lowers your eye pressure.

The procedure itself only takes a few minutes and is completely painless.

What should I expect after SLT treatment?
Your eye pressure may drop as quickly as one day after having the SLT laser treatment preformed. You will return for a follow-up visit to determine that there has been a drop in your intraocular pressure.

What are the side effects of SLT treatment?
Unlike some glaucoma medications, there have been no incidences of allergy or systemic side affects with SLT. Complications can include minimal inflammation, a temporary increase in eye pressure, headache, conjunctivitis, or mild eye pain.

Do I still need to continue using my eyedrops following the SLT procedure?
Since each individual reacts differently to SLT treatment, Dr. Anderson will review your medications with you on your return appointment for you intraocular pressure check. In the meantime, you will continue to take your current glaucoma medications.