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Quebec Superior Court Rejects Application to Authorize Class Action Against LASIK MD

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LASIK MD, a national provider of laser and intraocular lens vision correction procedures would like to acknowledge that the application to authorize a class action against LASIK MD has been rejected by the Superior Court of Quebec.

In November 2019, a class action lawsuit was filed against LASIK MD by a former patient living with a rare complication called corneal neuralgia or corneal neuropathic pain. Neuropathic pain is a localized pain condition that can develop after many types of surgeries and is not limited to corneal or ocular procedures. The condition causes the nerves to become more sensitive and consequently may cause some patients to perceive varying levels of discomfort. This rare condition is estimated to affect approximately 1 in 20,000 patients.

The Superior Court of Quebec determined that the petitioner's cause of action was prescribed, in that the individual did not pursue filing the case within the limitation period of three years. As the circumstances of the case were specific to this sole petitioner, the court concluded that there was no common question that would serve as the appropriate subject of a class action.

Laser Assisted in Situ Keratomileusis (LASIK) is widely accepted by ophthalmic surgeons as one of the safest elective medical procedures available with over 20 million procedures performed in North America over the past 25 years. As with any medical procedure performed, there are associated risks. However, surgical complications from LASIK are extremely rare, occurring in less than 1% of all patients, In the vast majority of cases, these post-surgical complications are treatable.

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According to Dr. Mark Cohen, MD FRCSC, President, Co-founder and National Medical Director of LASIK MD, "for nearly 20 years, we have maintained an unwavering commitment to safety, working diligently to monitor and support our patients' ocular health prior to and following treatment. Our stringent approach and established processes ensure that each patient is fully educated on the potential risks, benefits, and possible side effects prior to any procedure, including the very rare risk of chronic pain, a condition not exclusive to eye surgery. While the risks associated with LASIK are extremely low, it is nonetheless very unfortunate when a rare complication occurs. As a leader in vision health it has always been our mission to help our patients live life to the fullest by ensuring we offer safe and effective procedures."

ABOUT LASIK MD

LASIK MD is a leading national provider of laser and intraocular lens vision correction procedures. Throughout its nearly 20-year history, the company has been dedicated to treating patients with state-of-the-art technology at affordable prices.

LASIK MD operates over 30 clinics across Canada, and has a team of more than 50 experienced surgeons who have collectively performed **more than one million procedures** (including 500,000 in Quebec alone).

The company also partners with thousands of optometrists, who themselves refer patients and trust their own eyes to LASIK MD. Renowned for its exceptional medical and business practices, LASIK MD is the recipient of Deloitte's Best Managed Company Platinum Club Status, which is awarded to those organizations who have retained their Best Managed Companies status for seven or more consecutive years. For more information, please visit <u>lasikmd.com</u>.

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