N.C.L.E COURSES

Michael Gzik, FCLSA, COT

Mr. Gzik graduated from Erie Community College in Ophthalmic Dispensing. He is a New York State licensed optician/contact lens practitioner. He is a Fellow in the Contact Lens Society of America, JCAHPO Certified Ophthalmic Technician and NCLE certified. Mr. Gzik works in a private optical office in Syracuse NY, “New York Optometric” and at the Syracuse VA Hospital as an optician. He has worked as a consultant and technical trainer in for Bausch & Lomb professional services. He is a adjunct instructor for contact lens technology at SUNY Health Science Center Syracuse NY, Department of Ophthalmology resident program. He has worked as a site coordinator for a Taunton Excimer laser in Syracuse, he is a past president of the NY Contact Lens Society. He has served the Contact Lens Society of America as a director and treasurer. He was the Contact Lens Society of America member of the year in 2001 and presented the Theo E. Obrig lecture at the 2002 CLES meeting. The COA welcomes Mike back to Connecticut.

8:00 - 9:00
Advances in Design and Fitting GP Lenses ........................................................................................................ 1 Credit Hour

Gas permeable lenses have been around for 30 + years, but the designs and fitting principles have been with us for a century. This course will present advances in both design and fitting of GP lenses. The various designs include but are not limited to SV, Bi-focals, multifocals, reverse geometry, corneal reshaping, large diameter corneal lenses, semi-scleral, and sclera lenses. It will also present advances in fitting theories and methods.

9:00 - 10:00
Fitting Spherical and Toric Soft Lenses ............................................................................................................. 1 Credit Hour

Soft lenses make up more than 80% of all soft lens prescribed in the US. Because soft lenses are initially comfortable to patients they are considered to be the easiest to fit. Many practitioners “mail in” the lens type prescribed and then dispense a box of solutions based on nothing more than what is on the shelf at the time. This course is designed to help participant review the strategies used to prescribe a silicone hydrogel, or hydrogel material with appropriate system of disinfection based on patient needs and lifestyle with either spherical or toric soft lenses.

10:10 - 11:10
Adverse Response to Contact Lenses .................................................................................................................. 1 Credit Hour

The course will identify signs and symptoms of various material related adverse responses and their management. The participant will be instructed on the various strategies and designs that may be utilized to help a practitioner continue to fit the appropriate design, modality and material on a patient. Signs and symptoms of various solution related adverse responses and their management will be identified.

11:10 -12:10
Corneal Topography and Corneal Ectasia .............................................................................................................. 1 Credit Hour

Proper evaluation of the curvature is essential in fitting contact lenses. This course is designed to help the participant understand corneal topography and its relationship to contact lens design. The participant will be able to evaluate the different types of corneal astigmatism and what strategies are used in correcting them. The astigmatism conditions include but are not limited to. With the rule, against the rule, residual, and irregular, such as post op PKP, PTK, PRK, Lasik Corneal ectasia and trauma.

2:30 - 3:30
Fitting the Presbyope with GP Lenses .................................................................................................................... 1 Credit Hour

Presbyopic prescriptions will be evaluated to determine patient selection and their visual needs. Attendees will differentiate the methods of correcting presbyopia. Discussion will include glasses, distance contacts and glasses, bifocal contact lenses and monovision. Materials and designs of simultaneous and translating lenses will be presented. Patient management, follow up procedures and instructions will be discussed.
3:30 - 4:30
Realities of Contact Lens Care  ............................................................................................................. 1 Credit Hour
The course will identify signs and symptoms of various solution related adverse responses and their management. Participants will be instructed on the various strategies utilized to help increase patient compliance with Multi Purpose Solutions.

Lee M. Buffalo

Lee Buffalo of Jasper, GA, has thirty-seven years of experience in the contact lens industry. He has specialized skills in management and training of direct and distributor sales personnel and is a consultant for contact lens manufacturers, opticians, optometric and ophthalmic technicians. His proven successes include management of existing product lines and new product development. His leadership and communication skills have been illustrated throughout his career as a technical product application trainer for contact lens manufacturers and their consultation departments.

A former member of the Board of Directors of the Contact Lens Society of America, Lee lectures throughout the country. This is his second trip speaking to the Connecticut Opticians Association. Welcome back!

Mr. Buffalo is generously sponsored by an educational grant from

1:30 - 2:30
Mini Scleral and Scleral Lenses for Today’s Patients ................................................................. 1 Credit Hour

This course identifies and categorizes various types of large diameter mini scleral and scleral GP lenses by design and application. Mini scleral and scleral GP lenses are designed for applications ranging from traumatic injury, Ocular Surface Disease, highly irregular ectasias to include keratoconus, Pellucid Marginal Degeneration, Keratoplasty, and post refractive surgical applications. More recently patients with healthy normal prolate corneas and GP intolerant astigmatic patients wearing soft toric lenses are experiencing the benefits of improved comfort and vision performance afforded with mini scleral lenses. Basic fitting concepts of corneal clearance, limbal vault and edge lift are discussed to help the fitter new to scleral and mini scleral lenses comprehend the difference in fitting philosophy as compare to corneal GP lenses.