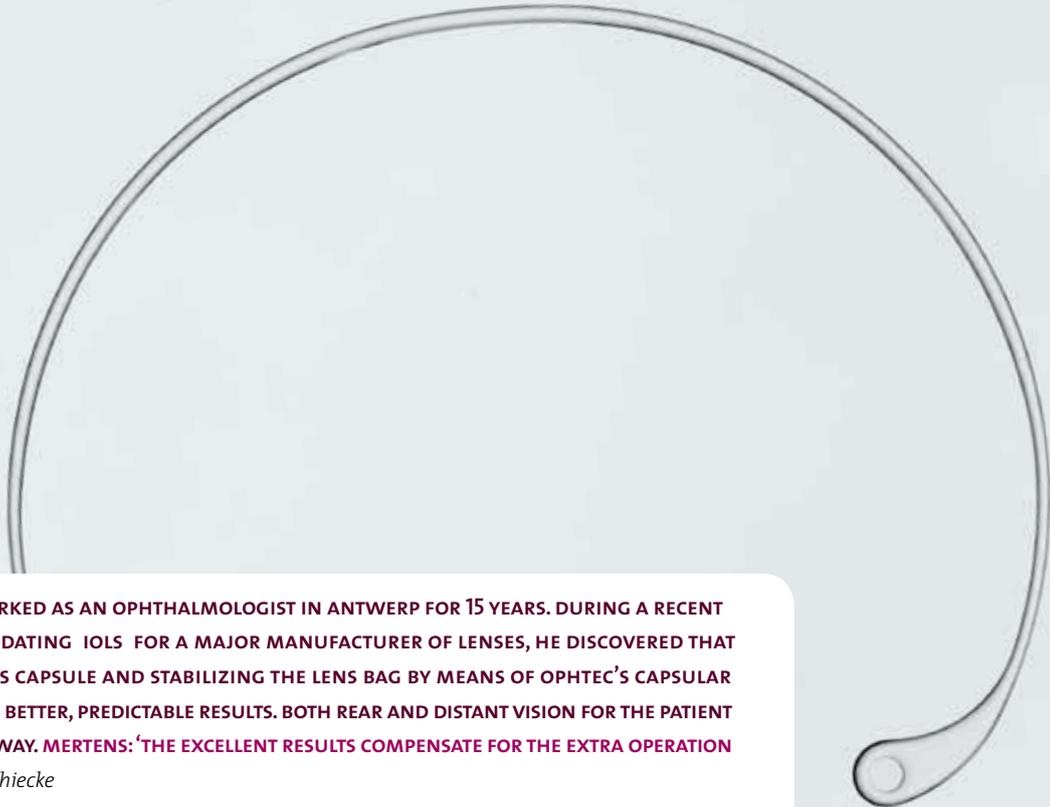
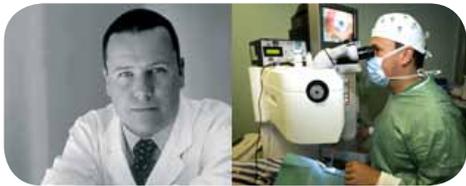


# Accommodating IOLs with a smooth rear lens capsule: a minor operation leading to better vision thanks to **OPHTEC's Capsular Tension Ring**



ERIK MERTENS HAS WORKED AS AN OPHTHALMOLOGIST IN ANTWERP FOR 15 YEARS. DURING A RECENT STUDY INTO ACCOMMODATING IOLs FOR A MAJOR MANUFACTURER OF LENSES, HE DISCOVERED THAT TENSING THE REAR LENS CAPSULE AND STABILIZING THE LENS BAG BY MEANS OF OPHTEC'S CAPSULAR TENSION RING LEADS TO BETTER, PREDICTABLE RESULTS. BOTH REAR AND DISTANT VISION FOR THE PATIENT ARE IMPROVED IN THIS WAY. MERTENS: 'THE EXCELLENT RESULTS COMPENSATE FOR THE EXTRA OPERATION AND COSTS.' *By Marij Thiecke*



Dr. Erik Mertens

## Strong capsular bag

Mertens: 'I've been working together with a large manufacturer of lenses since 2000. One problem that often occurs when lenses are implanted is that the lens decentres because the capsular bag shrinks asymmetrically or lifts after the natural lens has been removed. This reduces the quality of the patient's vision. From the patient's point of view, the operation has "failed". During my research into accommodating IOLs, I discovered that OPHTEC's CTRs in particular help to ensure that the capsular bag remains centred, leading to better vision and less aftercare treatment. Three other types of CTR were not always fitted successfully, which meant that the CTR had to be removed. In that case they usually had not developed fully or optimally. So, there's something in the production process of OPHTEC's CTR that makes it ideal. I'd like to find out the exact ingredients for this CTR, but I realize that this is OPHTEC's secret.'

## All non-monofocal operations

Mertens continues: 'I now use the OPHTEC CTR for all non-monofocal operations (in other words, for premium IOLs), because of the predictability and the better result that is achieved. When calculating the formula for the perfect fitting of the lens, there's always a factor of uncertainty. That factor is reduced by means of a simple procedure: by tensing the rear of the lens bag, the lens will be less likely to move. There's better contact between the implant lens and the rear of the lens bag.'

## Extra operation

'A reason for not using CTR - the operation is not common practice - would be that it involves an extra operation, during which part of the eye, such as the lens bag, could be damaged. Another reason would be that the additional costs don't justify the operation. I disagree with those arguments. A 'failed' decentred lens is often followed by

## >> CTR Specifications

<b>Model:</b>	275 12/10
<b>Overall diameter:</b>	12 mm
<b>Compression</b>	From 12 mm to 10 mm
<b>Material:</b>	PMMA   Flexible ring

<b>Model:</b>	276 13/11
<b>Overall diameter:</b>	13 mm
<b>Compression</b>	From 13 mm to 11 mm
<b>Material:</b>	PMMA   Flexible ring

Available in Clear and Brown PMMA

a second operation, which is equally invasive, or the patient reverts to glasses. So that also leads to an additional medical intervention, or the patient has to return, after all, to wearing glasses. A 2-minute job with the supplied injector makes it a smooth procedure which I would fully recommend to ophthalmologists.'