

Deep Anterior Lamellar Keratoplasty (DALK)

Category(ies): Cornea

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Deep anterior lamellar keratoplasty (DALK) is a partial-thickness cornea transplant procedure that involves selective transplantation of the corneal stroma, leaving the native Descemet membrane and endothelium in place. [Read the related article](#) for more information regarding modern corneal transplantation techniques.

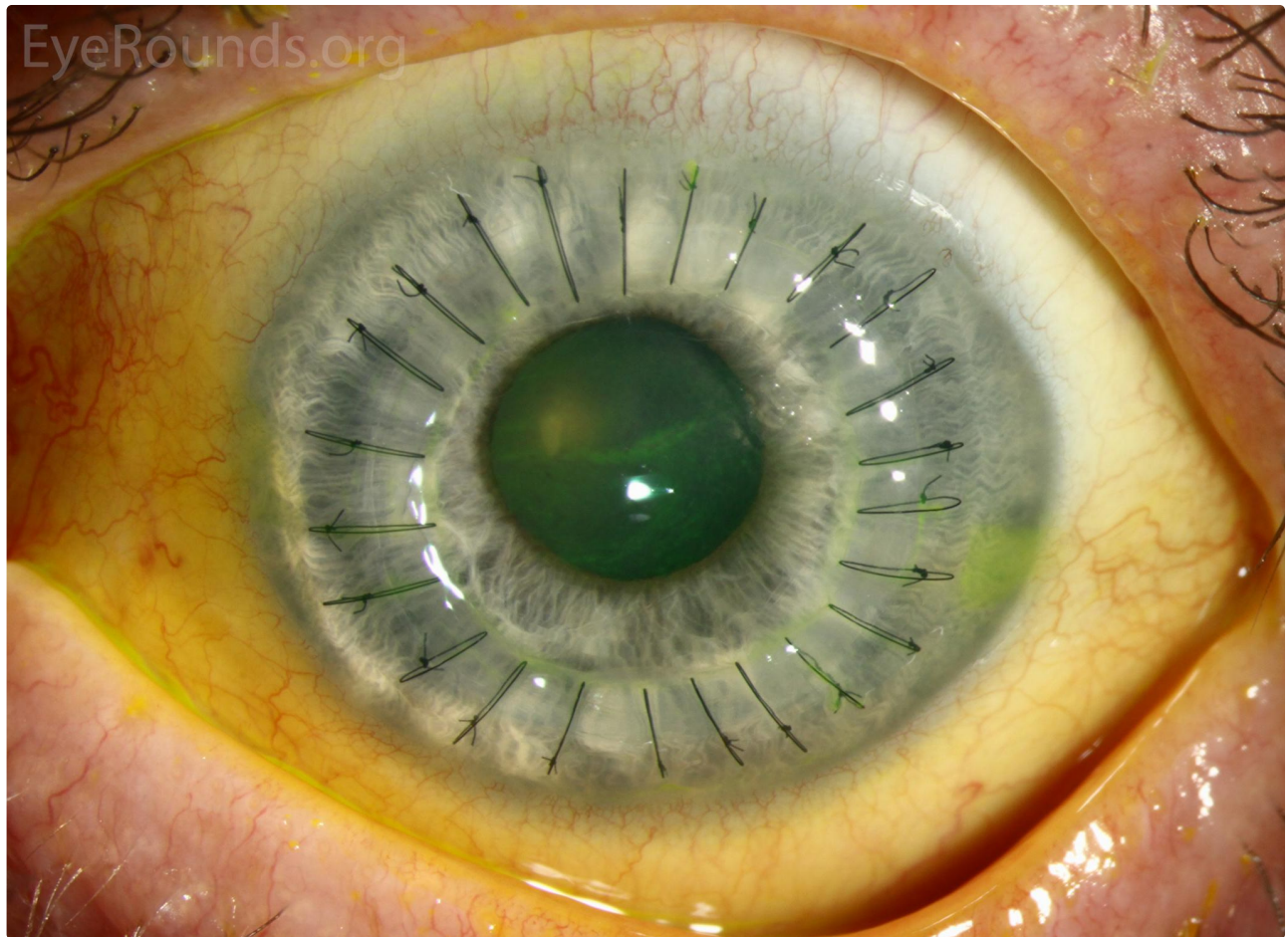


Figure 1: The post-operative appearance of a patient who underwent DALK for keratoconus.

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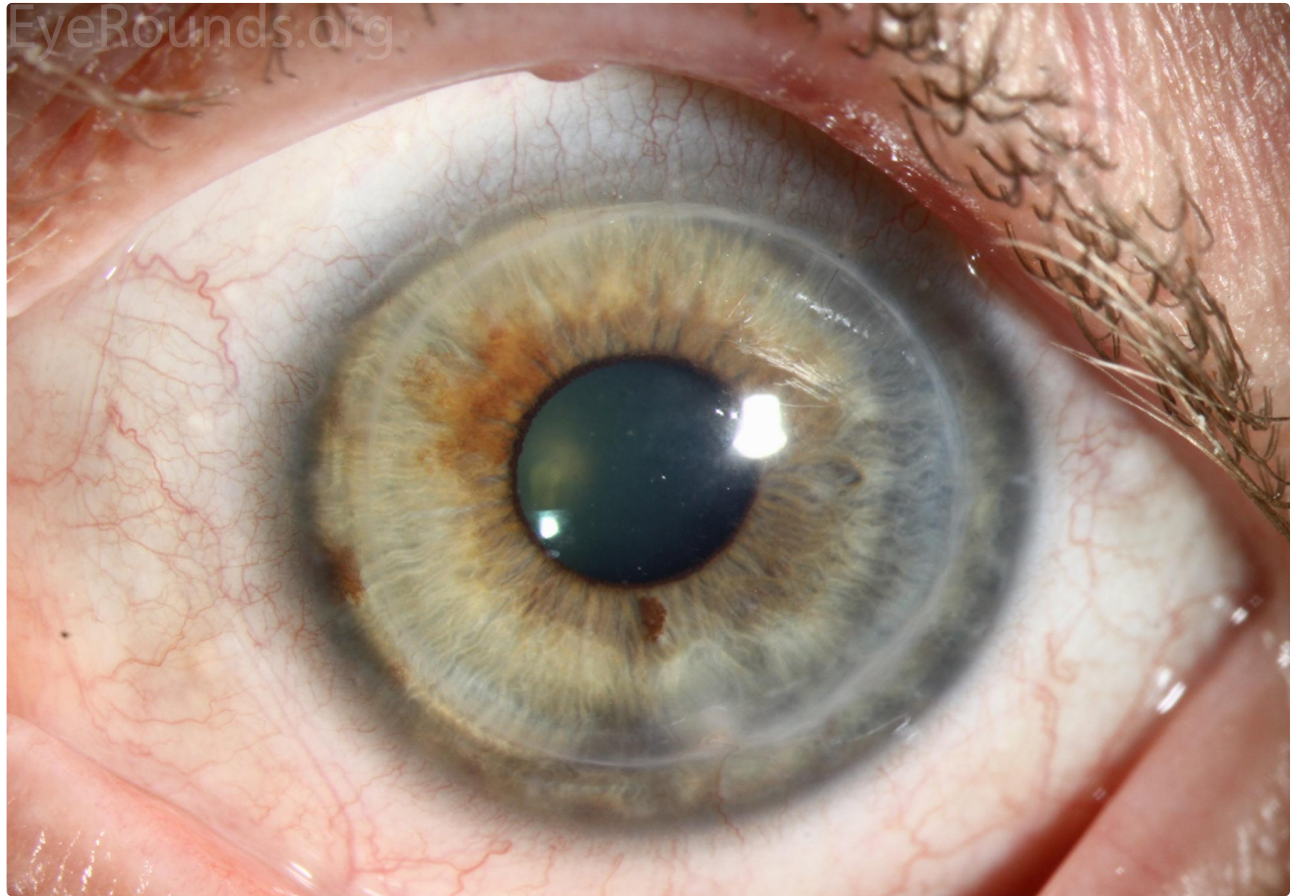


Figure 2: A clear DALK graft 3 years after the procedure with all sutures removed.

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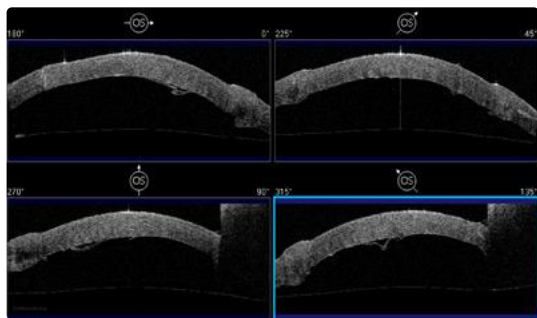


Figure 3a: Anterior segment optical coherence tomography demonstrating the redundant host Descemet membrane and endothelium in poor apposition to the graft tissue

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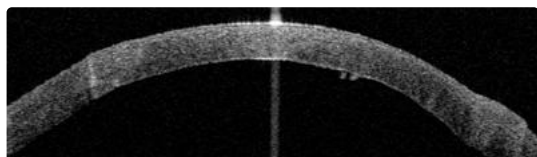




Figure 3b: A clear DALK graft 3 years after the procedure with all sutures removed.

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[Related Tutorial: An Introduction to Corneal Transplantation](#)

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