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Message from discussion [A Question of Credibility?](#)

Glenn Hagele - Council for Refractive Surgery Quality Assurance : [More options](#) Apr 17 2003

On 17 Apr 2003 17:12:15 -0700, RonaldL...@surgicaleyes.org (Ron Link,

Surgical Eyes) wrote:

>"It seems hypocritical that you would tell the entire refractive
>surgery industry they should stop their business"

>You were there Glenn at ASCRS in 2002 when I debated Dr. Slade. You
>know what I said and what you say above is a total lie. Dr. Stulting,
>Dr. Waring, Dr. Salz, Dr. Slade himself, most of your Board of
>Trustees know what you say above is a total lie.

Ron, you called for a total moratorium on all refractive surgery. How
is that not telling the refractive surgery industry they should stop
their business?

>You congratulated me
>on the debate when it was expedient to do so.

Sure, you made some good points. I congratulated you at the meeting
and on your website. In fact, I acknowledge those good points in an
upcoming article for Ocular Surgery News, but that does not change the
fact that you called for a total moratorium on all refractive surgery.

>One of your own Board of Trustees Dr. Holiday cc'd you on an email he
>sent basically congratulating SE on its work after you attempted to
>have his name removed from the bb.

Ron, I have never, ever, attempted to get any doctor's name removed
from your bulletin board. If a doctor wants his name on your bulletin
board, that is his or her business, not mine. I have, in fact,
suggested to several doctors that they help the patients you claim to
represent.

I did tell Dr. Holladay about a remark on your bulletin board that was
less than flattering. Here is exactly what I sent to Dr. Holladay:

~~~~~  
If you visit  
<http://surgicaleyes.atinfopop.com/4/OpenTopic?a=tpc&s=636293455&f=543...>

you will see that one of the regulars at SurgicalEyes is suggesting  
that you don't know when corneal thickness is enough for an  
enhancement. It is an offhanded remark, but you are specifically  
named.

I have found that when specifically asked, Ron Link will editing such  
information at his website. If you have a concern about this  
statement, email Ron directly at ronl...@surgicaleyes.org .

~~~~~

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>Backfired Glenn.

Nothing backfired, Ron. Dr. Holladay asked you to change the posting, you edited it on March 12th, and Dr. Holladay was satisfied. What was there to backfire? If Dr. Holladay had not found the comment objectionable it would have made no difference to me. He was the one who decided if he wanted it changed.

Yet again, point fingers at the messenger, not the message.

> How do you think

>other docs are going to view your escapades?

Ron, your paranoia is getting way out of hand. You see plots against you at every turn. No one is out to get you Ron. In my opinion, no one needs to. You will do yourself in without any outside assistance.

It does appear that there are many who will not shed a tear when you finally implode or become so marginalized as to no longer be significant. I really don't care one way or the other, as long as patients continue to have a resource for care. That does not require your involvement and other resources are being developed. As I have said, you getting out of the way may be in improvement.

>After we had the good grace to invite you to our LA meeting, you said >"nice job Ron". Now, you try to tear down SE.

Wow, you just cannot separate one thing from another, can you Ron.

It WAS a nice meeting. It was patients in need meeting doctors who want to help. SE put it together, but who put it together was unimportant.

The doctors who were there provided good information and even more importantly, they examined and evaluated many patients with long-term problems.

One of these doctors is a CRSQA Certified Refractive Surgeon. In a few weeks you are having another patient seminar in Portland that is hosted by another CRSQA Certified Refractive Surgeon. It is great when you focus on getting patients in front of doctors who can help. You really should do that more.

Having a nice patient seminar does not, however, excuse lies, misinformation, and hypocrisy.

>You told me I should helm another organization that SE was the >problem. Now I'm the problem and not SE.

I was wrong. SE has a lot of baggage, but my opinion of the source of the problems with SE has changed as more of your shenanigans have been made public. No, whatever SE is, good and bad, is your doing. Wherever you go, the same will happen there.

>You have \$250,000 in grant money for surgeon certifications. Where is >it?

We have internal grant money available for several purposes, including certifying surgeons in under-served areas and cooperative advertising funds to promote the use of ethical advertising.

>You are going to have \$500,000 available for post-op patients with >complications. Where is it?

We are still working on this. Don't worry, this is on the front burner. I don't want to make promises I can't deliver, but if this goes through, patients will have a very positive source for long-term refractive surgery induce complication care and will receive funding for that care. Best of all, the source of some of the funding is the refractive surgery industry. CRSQA won't receive the funds, but we will administrate the distribution.

Also, it appears that my initial estimate of \$500,000 may have been too low. We shall see.

>Your endorser in this newsgroup, ostensibly someone who knows little
>about refractive surgery except as a patient, has an uncanny awareness
>of the entire industry.

As I've said, I am responsible for what I say, not what others say or do.

>He demeans Dr. Salz and Dr. Nordan and other doctors. What do you have
>to say about that? Ragnar called Dr. Salz a word I won't even repeat
>here. He questions the ethics of Dr. Salz and Dr. Nordan? What do you
>have to say about your endorser's comments about those doctors and
>other doctors?

Jeeze, now you try to make me somehow responsible for the statements of another person.

If I recall correctly, Ragnar has suggested that doctors like Salz and Nordan should not support SurgicalEyes. I have pointed out to Ragnar that those doctors are helping the patients. That is what is important. If that also happens to support SurgicalEyes, then so be it. I have stated many times that I feel these are very noble doctors because they help the patients you claim to represent and are willing to ignore the things you and the SurgicalEyes faithful have done to disrupt their industry.

>You accuse me of venom against surgeons. You disparage Dr. Reinstein
>for his association with a "notorious lasik mill"

Are you now saying that LASIK Vision was not a notorious LASIK mill?
There seems to be no end to your flip flopping.

I think it is fair to consider Dr. Reinstein's affiliation with LASIK Vision as a part of his professional history. Even Dr. Reinstein acknowledges LASIK Vision's had its faults. The "LASIK mill" term comes from the SurgicalEyes faithful, not me.

>yet you can't quote
>me once ever disparaging a physician in any form of media. Not here,
>on SE, or anywhere. How do you think docs regard your muckraking?

No, you don't disparage a single doctor, just the entire industry.

>You write letters to publishing houses with half-baked accusations
>about my Board of Trustees and myself. Those accusations go nowhere
>because they are recognized for your motivation by the very people you
>espoused to be watching out for.

Here we go with this again. It is amazing how you like to bring up your own transgressions.

For years I warned you about potential copyright violations on your

website. The wholesale cutting and pasting of entire articles is simply not appropriate. I, and one of our trustees, notified several affiliated publishers of your acts and suggested they determine for themselves if there is a problem. One of those publishers didn't care. Good for you. All the others did care and you had to go back and edit your website to make it compliant with your own policy about copyrighted material.

Yet again you make a big deal about the messenger, but ignore the message. Here is the message, Ron: You screwed-up, got called on it, had to make some changes, and resolved the issues with the publishers who were concerned.

>Glenn, I advise you to stop yourself while you still can. Take a deep >breath and ask yourself what this is doing to your reputation and >credibility.

Ron, exposing lies, misinformation, and hypocrisy is not harmful to one's reputation. Except, of course, to one's reputation with the liars, misinformants, and hypocrites.

You may try to use exposing your foolishness against me, but any reasonable person who looks at the facts (not your spin and misinformation) will see things for exactly what they are. If that harms you, then it is a consequence of your acts.

My statements have not harmed CRSQA or me in the least. In fact, I have found just the opposite to be true. I actually had a major player at ASCRS tell me, "Go get that bast**d." Shocking language, to be sure, but such are the feelings about you and SurgicalEyes. To be honest, I have been surprised how much you are disliked. I thought most people really didn't care all that much, but apparently I was wrong. They do care. They care very much.

And yes, you do have your fans too. I met three of them.

>Perhaps you and Ragnar would be well served to both enroll in an anger >management course.

Hey Ron, I'm not angry. I'm a happy guy. My life is good. I have helped millions gain objective information about refractive surgery and find a better doctor if they decide to proceed. CRSQA is expanding farther into helping those who had poor outcomes and will be able to provide those patients some financial relief. I have nothing to be angry about.

I can't speak for Ragnar.

Glenn Hagele
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I am not a doctor.

