

US researchers develop a device for treating dry eyes

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A group of researchers at Stanford in the US have developed a handheld neurotransmitter device that gives patients a new, drug-free alternative to lubricating eye drops and topical ointments.

The dry eye sufferers need to insert the neurostimulator device into their nose in order to bring out more tears. This has shown to provide significant relief to the patients suffering from the problem of dry eyes.

More than 20 million Americans suffer from dry eyes. In fact, one out of every four patients report symptoms of dry eye, making it one of the most common conditions seen by eye care practitioners.

Healthy eyes are lubricated with tears that are a mixture of oils, water, proteins, and mucus. The protective film this fluid creates supports clear vision. Without it, eyes dry out and become vulnerable to painful abrasions of the cornea.

The researchers believe that this will be a very beneficial treatment option for dry eye patients. It's an innovative technology that effectively and safely increases tear production.