

Project Design Specifications—Blinking Orbital Prosthesis

September 16, 2009

Team: Carmen Coddington, Bryan Jepson, Elise Larson, Michelle Tutkowski

Client: Greg Gion, Medical Art Prosthetics

Advisor: Willis Tompkins, Biomedical Engineering

Function:

The Orbital Prosthesis will function as a natural, blinking ocular replacement. Machinery will be contained within the prosthesis, which will fit into the ocular cavity behind the acrylic eyepiece. This eyepiece will be held in place by a silicone mold which will gently interface with the skin. The prosthesis should weigh less than 45 g, have a minimum lifespan of three years, and should not cause detrimental physiological effects.

Client Requirements:

- Cost Effective
- Natural Appearance
- Simple Mechanism
- Reliable Blinking Function

Design Requirements:

1) Physical and Operational Characteristics

- a) Performance requirements – Must blink on command.
- b) Safety – No negative biological effects: no harmful electromagnetic, chemical, or physical components
- c) Accuracy and Reliability – Must consistently blink on command.
- d) Life in Service – Used daily for 3-4 years.
- e) Shelf Life – Not applicable; prostheses are custom made for immediate use.
- f) Operating Environment – In contact with skin and adhesive, close proximity to brain may require magnetic connections. Must operate from -40° to 45° C.
- g) Ergonomics – Comfortable for extended use, easily maintained, convenient blinking control device.
- h) Size – Mechanism contained in 5.5 cm^3 spherical volume.
- i) Weight – Less than 45g.
- j) Materials – Cost-efficient, no latex, polymethylmethacrylate (PMMA) recommended.
- k) Aesthetics – Must maintain natural appearance of eye and surrounding tissue.

2) Production Characteristics

- a) Quantity – One prototype device.
- b) Target Product Cost – \$2000. This includes acrylic eye and blinking mechanism.

3) Miscellaneous

a) Standards and Specifications – FDA approval is not required. The device will be considered a “custom device” by the FDA; therefore, FDA review and approval for the use of the device are unnecessary.

b) Customer – Individuals in need of an ocular prosthetic.

c) Patient-related concerns – Should look realistic to an outside observer, and give the patient confidence in their appearance.

d) Competition – Traditional orbital prosthetics, self-lubricating orbital prosthetics (U.S. Patent 5171265.)