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Intraocular lens injector

Abstract

Apparatuses, systems, and methods for implanting an intraocular lens into an eye are described. For example, an intraocular lens injector may include a plunger and an injector body that includes an insertion depth guard and a nozzle extending therefrom. The insertion depth guard is disposed at a distal end of the injector body to limit a distance that the nozzle penetrates the eye. The intraocular lens injector may also include a biasing element configured to generate a counterforce to distal movement of the plunger through the injector rod. An example intraocular lens injector may include a biasing element to produce a counterforce that opposes advancement of the plunger through the injector body. The counterforce provides for a more continuous advancement of the plunger while reducing or substantially eliminating abrupt changes in the rate at which the plunger is advanced through the injector body.

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Background/Summary

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS (1) This application is a continuation of U.S. application Ser. No. 16/744,646, filed Jan. 16, 2020, and claims the benefit of U.S. application Ser. No. 15/049,315, filed Feb. 22, 2016, and claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 62/128,356, filed Mar. 4, 2015, and claims the benefit U.S. Provisional Application No. 62/208,064, filed Aug. 21, 2015, the entire contents of which are included herein by reference.

TECHNICAL FIELD

(1) The present disclosure relates to systems, apparatuses, and methods for intraocular lens injectors.

BACKGROUND

(2) The human eye in its simplest terms functions to provide vision by transmitting and refracting light through a clear outer portion called the cornea, and further focusing the image by way of the lens onto the retina at the back of the eye. The quality of the focused image depends on many factors including the size, shape and length of the eye, and the shape and transparency of the cornea and lens. When trauma, age or disease cause the lens to become less transparent, vision deteriorates because of the diminished light which can be transmitted to the retina. This deficiency in the lens of the eye is medically known as a cataract. The treatment for this condition is surgical removal of the lens and implantation of an artificial intraocular lens ("IOL").

(3) Many cataractous lenses are removed by a surgical technique called phacoemulsification. During this procedure, an opening is made in the anterior capsule and a thin phacoemulsification cutting tip is inserted into the diseased lens and vibrated ultrasonically. The vibrating cutting tip liquefies or emulsifies the lens so that the lens may be aspirated out of the eye. The diseased lens, once removed, is replaced by an artificial lens.

(4) The IOL is injected into the eye through the same small incision used to remove the diseased lens. An IOL injector is used to deliver an IOL into the eye.

SUMMARY

(5) According to one aspect, the disclosure describes an intraocular lens injector that may include an injector body, and a plunger slideable within a bore formed in the injector body. The injector body may include the bore, an interior wall defining the bore, an insertion depth guard disposed at a distal end of the injector body, and a nozzle extending distally beyond the insertion depth guard. The insertion depth guard may include a flanged surface.

(6) Another aspect of the disclosure encompasses an intraocular lens injector. The intraocular lens injector may include an injector body and a plunger. The injector body may include a bore defined by an interior wall and a nozzle formed at a distal end of the injector body. The plunger may be slideable in the bore and may include a plunger tip. The tip may include a first groove and a second groove nested within the first groove.

(7) Another aspect of the disclosure encompasses an intraocular lens injector that includes an injector body and a plunger. The injector body includes a bore defined by an interior wall and a nozzle formed at a distal end of the injector body. The plunger is slideable in the bore and includes a plunger tip and a longitudinal axis. The plunger tip includes a first protrusion extending distally from a first side of the plunger tip and a hinge disposed at a proximal end of the first protrusion. The first protrusion extends at an oblique angle relative to the longitudinal axis and pivotable about the hinge.

(8) The various aspects may include one or more of the following features. The flanged surface may be a curved surface. The curved surface may be a spherical surface. The plunger may include a body portion and a biasing element disposed adjacent to a proximal end of the body portion. The biasing element may be deformable upon engagement with the injector body to produce a force resistive to further advancement of the plunger through the bore. The biasing element may include a channel, and wherein the body portion of the plunger may extend through the channel. The injector body may include a tab formed at a proximal end thereof, a groove extending through the tab, and an aperture aligned with the groove. The intraocular lens injector may also include a plunger stop. The plunger stop may include a protrusion. The plunger stop may be removably received in the groove such that the protrusion extends through the aperture and into a slot formed in the plunger. The plunger may include a cantilevered member. The bore may include a shoulder, and the aperture formed in the injector body may align with the slot formed in the plunger when the cantilevered member engages the shoulder.

(9) The various aspects may also include one or more of the following features. The injector body may include a compartment in communication with the bore. The compartment and the bore may be coupled together at an interface. The interior wall may include a tapered portion that defines an

opening that provides communication between the bore and the compartment. The interior wall may include a flexible wall portion disposed at the opening. The plunger may include a plunger rod, and the compartment may include a receiving surface adapted to receive an intraocular lens. The receiving surface may include a contoured ramp disposed distally from the opening. The flexible wall portion may be configured to align the plunger rod within the opening. The contoured ramp may be configured to deflect the plunger rod in a second direction opposite the first direction as the plunger rod is advanced through the compartment. The plunger may include a cantilevered member, and the cantilevered member may deflectively engage the interior wall of the bore as the plunger is advanced through the bore.

(10) The various aspects may include one or more of the following features. The second groove may be formed at a first end of the first groove. A second end of the first groove opposite the first end may be configured to capture a trailing haptic of an intraocular lens disposed in the injector body, and the second groove may be adapted to capture a proximal end of an optic of the intraocular lens. The plunger may include a plunger rod, and at least a portion of the plunger rod may be angularly offset from a longitudinal axis of the plunger rod. The injector body may include an insertion depth guard disposed at a distal end of the injector body, and the insertion depth guard may include a flanged surface. A cross-sectional dimension of the insertion depth guard may be larger than a cross-sectional dimension of the nozzle. The flanged surface may be a curved surface. The plunger may include a biasing element disposed adjacent to a proximal end of the plunger. The biasing element may be deformable upon engagement with the injector body to produce a force resistive to further advancement of the plunger through the bore. The biasing element may include a channel, and wherein the body portion of the plunger may extend through the channel. A first groove may be disposed adjacent to second protrusion and adapted to receive an optic of an intraocular lens.

(11) It is to be understood that both the foregoing general description and the following detailed description are exemplary and explanatory in nature and are intended to provide an understanding of the present disclosure without limiting the scope of the present disclosure. In that regard, additional aspects, features, and advantages of the present disclosure will be apparent to one skilled in the art from the following detailed description.

Description

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

- (1) FIG. 1 is a perspective view of an example intraocular lens injector.
- (2) FIG. 2 shows a longitudinal cross-sectional view of the intraocular lens injector of FIG. 1.
- (3) FIG. 3 is a perspective view of a distal portion of an example injector body of the intraocular lens injector of FIG. 1.
- (4) FIG. 4 is a cross-sectional view of the distal portion of the injector body shown in FIG. 3.
- (5) FIG. 5 is an example cross-sectional shape of a nozzle of an intraocular lens injector.
- (6) FIG. 6 shows an intraocular lens injector partially inserted into an eye.
- (7) FIG. 7 shows a construction method for defining a flanged surface of an insertion depth guard of an example intraocular lens injector.
- (8) FIG. 8 shows a cross-sectional view of an intraocular lens receiving compartment formed in an injector body.
- (9) FIG. 9 shows a perspective view of an intraocular lens receiving compartment formed in an injector body.
- (10) FIG. 10 is a cross-sectional view of a plunger.
- (11) FIG. 11 is a bottom view of a plunger.
- (12) FIG. 12 is a partial perspective view showing tabs and a plunger lock of an example

intraocular lens injector.

(13) FIG. 13 is a detail view of an example plunger tip of plunger.

(14) FIG. 14 shows an example interior surface of a door enclosing a lens-receiving compartment of an intraocular lens injector.

(15) FIG. 15 shows deformation experienced by an example spring during advancement of a plunger of an intraocular lens injector.

(16) FIG. 16 is a detail view of a plunger with another example biasing element design.

(17) FIG. 17 illustrates a plunger having yet another example biasing element design.

(18) FIG. 18 shows another plunger with a further example biasing element design.

(19) FIG. 19 is a detail view of the distal end of the IOL injector showing a demarcation designating a pause position of an IOL being advanced through the IOL injector.

(20) FIG. 20 is a view of a distal end 60 of an IOL injector with an IOL located therein at a pause position.

(21) FIG. 21 is a detail view of an example IOL injector showing an opening at an interface between a compartment into which an IOL is received and an internal bore of an injector body, the detail view being transverse to a longitudinal axis of the IOL injector, and the detail view showing a flexible wall portion in contact with an injector rod.

(22) FIG. 22 is a partial cross-sectional view of an example IOL injector.

(23) FIGS. 23-24 show an example advancement stop coupled to a plunger.

(24) FIGS. 25-26 show another example advancement stop coupled to a plunger.

(25) FIG. 27 shows an example IOL.

(26) FIG. 28 is a perspective view of an example plunger tip.

(27) FIG. 29 is a side view of the example plunger tip of FIG. 28.

(28) FIG. 30 is a top view of the example plunger tip of FIG. 28.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

(29) For the purposes of promoting an understanding of the principles of the present disclosure, reference will now be made to the implementations illustrated in the drawings, and specific language will be used to describe the same. It will nevertheless be understood that no limitation of the scope of the disclosure is intended. Any alterations and further modifications to the described devices, instruments, methods, and any further application of the principles of the present disclosure are fully contemplated as would normally occur to one skilled in the art to which the disclosure relates. In particular, it is fully contemplated that the features, components, and/or steps described with respect to one implementation may be combined with the features, components, and/or steps described with respect to other implementations of the present disclosure.

(30) The present disclosure relates to systems, apparatuses, and methods for delivering an IOL into an eye. FIGS. 1 and 2 show an example IOL injector 10 that includes an injector body 20 and a plunger 30. The injector body 20 defines a bore 40 extending from a proximal end 50 of the injector body 20 to a distal end 60 of the injector body 20. The plunger 30 is slideable within the bore 40. Particularly, the plunger 30 is slideable within bore 40 in order to advance an IOL, such as IOL 70, within the injector body 20. The IOL injector 10 also includes a longitudinal axis 75. The longitudinal axis 75 may extend along the plunger 30 and define a longitudinal axis of the plunger 30.

(31) The injector body 20 includes a compartment 80 operable to house an IOL prior to insertion into an eye. In some instances, a door 90 may be included to provide access to the compartment 80. The door 90 may include a hinge 100 such that the door 90 may be pivoted about the hinge 100 to open the compartment 80. The injector body 20 may also include tabs 110 formed at the proximal end 50 of the injector body 20. The tabs 110 may be manipulated by fingers of a user, such as an ophthalmologist or other medical professional, to advance the plunger 30 through the bore 40.

(32) FIGS. 3-5 illustrate details of the distal end 60 of the injector body 20. In some instances, the distal end 60 has a tapered exterior surface. Further, the distal end 60 includes a passage 64 that

tapers towards a distal opening **125**. The injector body **20** also includes a nozzle **120** at the distal end **60**. The nozzle **120** is adapted for insertion into an eye so that an IOL may be implanted. An IOL is expelled from distal opening **125** formed in the nozzle **120**. As shown in FIG. 5, the nozzle **120** may have an elliptical cross section. Additionally, the nozzle **120** may include a beveled tip **130**. The compartment **80**, passage **64**, and opening **125** may define a delivery passage **127**. A size of the delivery passage **127** may vary along its length. That is, in some instances, a height **H1** of the passage may change along a length of the delivery passage **127**. The variation in size of the delivery passage **127** may contribute to the folding of the IOL as it is advanced therealong.

(33) In some instances, the injector body **20** may include an insertion depth guard **140**. The insertion depth guard **140** may form a flanged surface **150** that is adapted to abut an exterior eye surface. The insertion depth guard **140** abuts an eye surface and, thereby, limits an amount by which the nozzle **120** is permitted to extend into an eye. In some implementations, the flanged surface **150** may have a curvature that conforms to the outer surface of an eye. For example, the flanged surface **150** may have a curvature that conforms to a scleral surface of the eye. In other instances, the flanged surface **150** may have a curvature that corresponds to a corneal surface of the eye. In still other instances, the flanged surface **150** may have a curvature, part of which corresponds to a scleral surface and another part that corresponds to a corneal surface. Thus, the flanged surface **150** may be concave. In other instances, the flanged surface **150** may be flat. In still other instances, the flanged surface **150** may be convex. Further, the flanged surface **150** may have any desired contour. For example, the flanged surface **150** may be a curved surface having radii of curvature that vary along different radial directions from a center of the flanged surface **150**. In still other instances, the flanged surface **150** may define a surface that has varying curvature along different radial directions as well as curvature that varies along one or more particular radial directions.

(34) In FIG. 3, the insertion depth guard **140** is shown as a continuous feature that forms a continuous flanged surface **150**. In some implementations, the insertion depth guard **140** may be segmented into a plurality of features or protrusions forming a plurality of eye-contacting surfaces. These eye-contacting surfaces may work in concert to control the depth to which the nozzle **120** may penetrate an eye. In other implementations, the insertion depth guard **140** may be omitted.

(35) An example implementation of the insertion depth guard **140** is shown in FIGS. 6-7. In FIG. 6, the IOL injector **10** is shown with the nozzle **120** inserted into an eye **151** through a wound **152** formed in the eye. Thus, as explained above, the flanged surface **150** of the insertion depth guard **140** may be spherical in nature in order to conform to the eye **151** when the nozzle **120** is fully inserted thereinto.

(36) FIG. 7 shows a side view of the distal portion of the IOL injector **10** showing an example layout for defining a shape of the flanged surface **150**. In this illustrated example, the surface is defined to be spherical in nature. Thus, in some instances, the flanged surface may be described as a “spherical surface” which is understood to mean a surface that conforms to a sphere. A spherical surface of the flanged surface **150** may approximate the shape of an eye. However, a spherical surface is provided only as an example. Thus, the shape of the flanged surface **150** may be any desired shape.

(37) As shown, a center **153** for use in defining a spherical surface of the flange surface **150** may be located relative to the nozzle **120** of the IOL injector **10**. A center **153** of the spherical surface may be located to produce, for example, a desired length **154** of the nozzle **120** that extends beyond the flanged surface **150** and, thus, into an eye.

(38) The injector body **20** may include a tapered portion **155**. The nozzle **120** and tapered portion **155** meet at a location **156**. A horizontal position of the center **153** may be made in reference to the location **156**. For example, a horizontal displacement **157** of the center **153** from location **156** may be in the range of 7.6 mm to 8.0 mm. Accordingly, in some implementations, the center **153** may have a horizontal displacement of 7.6 mm, 7.7 mm, 7.8 mm, 7.9 mm, or 8.0 mm. A vertical

position of the center **153** may be defined by a vertical distance **158** from the longitudinal axis **75**. In some instances, the vertical displacement **158** may be 2.3 mm to 2.7 mm. Thus, in some implementations, the center **153** may have a horizontal displacement of 2.3 mm, 2.4 mm, 2.5 mm, 2.6 mm, or 2.7 mm. However, it is noted that the ranges of the horizontal displacement **157** and the vertical displacement **158** of the center **153** are provided only as examples. Thus, the values of the horizontal displacement **157** and vertical displacement **158** of the center **153** may be greater or smaller than the examples provided or any value in between. Moreover, the horizontal displacement **157** and vertical displacement **158** may be any desired length.

(39) In some implementations, a radius **159** of spherical surface **160** may be sized to correspond to a radius of an eye. In some instances, the radius **159** may be within the range of 7.5 mm to 8.1 mm. Thus, the radius may be 7.5 mm, 7.6 mm, 7.7 mm, 7.8 mm, 7.9 mm, 8.0 mm, or 8.1 mm. These values are provided only as examples. Accordingly, it is within the scope of the disclosure that the radius **159** may be greater or smaller than the values provided or any value in between. Consequently, the value of radius **159** may be any desired value.

(40) The values of the horizontal displacement **157**, vertical displacement **158**, and radius **159** may be selected to produce a nozzle length **154** of any desired size. For example, in some instances, these values may be selected to produce a nozzle length **154** of between 1.0 mm and 5.0 mm. In some implementations, the length of the nozzle **120** may be 2.0 mm. In other instances, the length of the nozzle **120** may be 3.0 mm. In some instances, the nozzle **120** may be 4.0. In still other instances, the length of the nozzle **120** may be 5.0 mm. However, the scope of the disclosure is not so limited. Rather, the length of the nozzle **120** may be greater or less than the values presented or any value in between. Moreover, the length of nozzle **120** may be any desired length.

(41) FIG. **8** shows a cross-sectional detail view of the compartment **80** and a portion of bore **40** of the example injector body **20** shown in FIG. **2**. The bore **40** is defined by an interior wall **298**. The interior wall **298** includes a tapered portion that includes a first tapered wall **301** and a second tapered wall **303**. The tapered portion of the interior wall **298** defines an opening **170** at an interface **172** between the bore **40** and the compartment **80**. The opening **170** includes a height **H1**. The distal end portion **211** of the plunger rod **210** has a height of **H2**. In some instances, height **H1** may be larger than height **H2**, such that, initially, there is no interference between the plunger rod **210** and the interior wall **298** at the opening **170**. In other instances, height **H1** may be equal to or larger than height **H2**, such that the plunger rod **210** and the opening **170** initially have an interference fit. In some implementations, the first tapered wall **301** includes a flexible wall portion. In the example shown, the flexible wall portion **162** is an obliquely-extending, flexible portion of the interior wall **298** and, particularly, of the first tapered wall **301**. As shown in FIG. **9**, in some instances, portions of the first tapered wall **301** are removed, forming voids **163** that flank the flexible wall portion **162**. Thus, in some instances, the flexible wall portion **162** may extend in a cantilevered manner.

(42) Referring again to FIG. **8**, in some instances, the flexible wall portion **162** may be sloped toward the distal end **60** of the injector body **20**. In some instances, an angle **B** defined by the flexible wall portion **162** and the longitudinal axis **75** may be in the range of 20° to 60°. For example, in some instances, the angle **B** may be 20°, 25°, 30°, 35°, 40°, 45°, 50°, 55°, or 60°. Further, the angle **B** may be greater or smaller than the defined range or anywhere within the recited range. Moreover, the scope of the disclosure is not so limited. Thus, the angle **B** may be any desired angle.

(43) The injector body **20** may also include a contoured ramp **180** formed along an interior receiving surface **190** of the compartment **80**. Generally, the interior receiving surface **190** is the surface on which an IOL, such as IOL **70**, is placed when loaded into the IOL injector **10**. FIG. **9** is a perspective view of a portion of the example injector body **20** shown in FIG. **2**. The door **90** is not shown. In some instances, a vertical distance **C** between a tip of the flexible wall portion **162** and the top of the contoured ramp **180** may correspond with a height **H2** of a distal end portion **211** of

the plunger rod **210**. In other instances, the distance C may be greater or less than the height H2 of the distal end portion **211** of the plunger rod **210**. The flexible wall portion **162** and contoured ramp **180** are discussed in more detail below.

(44) As also shown in FIG. **9**, the injector body **20** may include a contoured surface **192** that is offset from the receiving surface **190**. A wall **194** is formed adjacent to the contoured surface **192**. A freely extending end **452** of a haptic **450** contacts the contoured surface **192** when IOL **70** is received into the compartment **80**.

(45) Referring to FIGS. **1** and **10-11**, the plunger **30** may include a body portion **200**, a plunger rod **210** extending distally from the body portion **200**, and a plunger tip **220** formed at a distal end **230** of the plunger rod **210**. The plunger **30** may also include a flange **240** formed at a proximal end **250** of the body portion **200**. A biasing element **260** may be disposed on the plunger **30**. In some instances, the biasing element **260** may be a spring. In some implementations, the biasing element **260** may be disposed adjacent to the flange **240**. A proximal end **262** may be fixedly attached at the body portion adjacent to the flange **240**. In other instances, the biasing element **260** may be disposed at another location along the body portion **200**. In still other implementations, the biasing element **260** may be formed or otherwise disposed on the injector body **20** and adapted to engage the plunger **30** at a selected location during advancement of the plunger **30** through bore **40**.

(46) The flange **240** may be used in concert with the tabs **110** to advance the plunger **30** through the injector housing **20**. For example, a user may apply pressure to tabs **110** with two fingers while applying opposing pressure to the flange **240** with the user's thumb. A surface of the flange **240** may be textured in order to provide positive gripping by a user. In some instances, the texture may be in the form of a plurality of grooves. However, any desired texture may be utilized.

(47) The body portion **200** may include a plurality of transversely arranged ribs **270**. In some instances, the ribs **270** may be formed on both a first surface **280** and a second surface **290** of the body portion **200**. In other instances, the ribs **270** may be formed on only one of the first surface **280** and second surface **290**. A longitudinally extending rib **300** may also be formed on one or both of the first and second surfaces **280**, **290**.

(48) In some instances, the body portion **200** may also include one or more protrusions **202**, as shown in FIG. **11**. The protrusions **202** may extend longitudinally along a length of the body portion **200**. The protrusions **202** may be received grooves **204** formed in the injector body **20**, as shown in FIG. **1**. The protrusions **202** and grooves **204** interact to align the plunger **30** within the bore **40** of the injector body **20**.

(49) The body portion **220** may also include cantilevered members **292**. The cantilevered members **292** may extend from a proximal end **294** of the body portion **200** towards the distal end **250**. The cantilevered members **292** may include flared portions **296**. The cantilevered members **292** may also include substantially horizontal portions **297**. The flared portions **296** are configured to engage the interior wall **298** of the injector body **20** that defines the bore **40**, as shown in FIG. **2**.

Engagement between the cantilevered members **292** and the interior wall **298** generates a force resistive to advancement of the plunger **30** and provides a tactile feedback to the user during advancement of the plunger **30**. For example, in some implementations, the resistive force generated by contact between the cantilevered members **292** and the interior wall **298** may provide a baseline resistance that resists advancement of the plunger **30**.

(50) In some instances, the plunger rod **210** may include an angled portion **212**. The distal end portion **211** may form part of the angled portion **212**. The angled portion **212** may define an angle, A, within the range of 1° to 5° with the longitudinal axis **75**. In some instances, the angle A may be 2°. In some instances, the angle A may be 2.5°. In still other instances, the angle A may be 3°, 3.5°, 4°, 4.5°, or 5°. Further, while the above values of A are provided as examples, the angle A may be greater or less than the indicated range or any value in between. Thus, the angle A may be any desired angle.

(51) The angled portion **212** ensures that the plunger tip **220** contacts and follows the receiving

surface **190** as the plunger **30** is advanced through the bore **40**. Particularly, the angle A defined by the angled portion **212** exceeds what is needed to cause the plunger tip **220** to contact the interior wall **298** of the bore **40**. That is, when the plunger **30** is disposed within the bore **40**, engagement between the plunger tip **220** and the interior wall **298** causes the angled portion **212** to bend inwardly due to the angle A. Consequently, the angled portion **212** ensures that the plunger tip **220** properly engages the haptics and optic of an IOL being inserted from the IOL injector **10**. This is described in greater detail below. Although the angled portion **212** is shown as being a substantially straight portion bent at an angle relative to the remainder of the plunger rod **210**, the scope is not so limited. In some instances, a portion of plunger rod **210** may have a continuous curvature. In other instances, an entire length of the plunger rod **210** may be bent or have a curvature. Further, the amount of angular offset from the longitudinal axis **75** or amount of curvature may be selected in order to provide a desired amount of engagement between the plunger tip **220** and the interior surfaces of the injector body **20**.

(52) The biasing element **260** may be affixed to the body portion **200** adjacent to the flange **240**. In some instances, the biasing element **260** may form a hoop **310** extending distally along the body portion **200** that functions as a spring to resist advancement of the plunger **30** when the hoop **310** engages the injector body **20**. The biasing element **260** may also include a collar **261** channel **320** through which the body portion **200** extends. Thus, in operation, as the plunger **30** is advanced through the bore **40** of the injector body **20** (i.e., in the direction of arrow **330**), a distal end **265** of the biasing element **260** contacts the proximal end **50** of the injector body **20** at a selected location along the stroke of the plunger **30**. As the injector **30** is further advanced, the biasing element **260** is compressed and the channel **320** permits the distal end **265** of the biasing element **260** to move relative to the body portion **200**. Similarly, the channel **320** permits relative movement between the body portion **200** and the distal end **265** of the biasing element **260** during proximal movement of the plunger **30** (i.e., in the direction of arrow **340**).

(53) The biasing element **260** in the form of hoop **310**, shown, for example, in FIG. 2, is provided merely as an example. The biasing element **260** may have other configurations. For example, FIG. 16 illustrates a biasing element having elongated elliptical or oval members **1600** disposed on opposite sides of the body portion **200** of the plunger **30** and attached to the flange **240**. FIG. 17 shows another example configuration of the biasing element **260**. In FIG. 17, the biasing element **260** is in the form of curved, cantilevered members **1700** provided on opposing sides of the body portion **200** of the plunger **30**. The cantilevered members **1700** are attached to the flange **240**. FIG. 18 shows an example in which the biasing element **260** is integrated into the body portion **200** of the plunger **30**. The biasing element **260** includes arcuate members **1800** that engage an interior wall that defines the bore **40** of the injector body **20**. While some examples are provided, the scope of the disclosure is not so limited. Rather, biasing elements having other forms and configurations are included within the scope of the disclosure.

(54) Referring to FIGS. 2, 11, and 12, the IOL injector **10** may also include a plunger lock **350**. The plunger lock **350** is removably disposed in a groove **360** formed in one of the tabs **110**. The plunger lock **350** includes a protrusion **370** formed at one end thereof. The plunger lock **350** may include a single protrusion **370**, as shown in FIG. 2. In other instances, the plunger lock **350** may include a plurality of protrusions **370**. For example, FIG. 12 illustrates an example plunger lock **350** having two protrusions **370**. In other instances, the plunger lock **350** may include additional protrusions **370**.

(55) When installed, the protrusion **370** extends through an aperture **375** formed in the injector body **20** and is received into a slot **380** formed in the plunger **30**. When the plunger lock **350** is installed, the protrusion **370** and slot **380** interlock to prevent the plunger **30** from moving within the bore **40**. That is, the installed plunger lock **350** prevents the plunger **30** from being advanced through or removed from the bore **40**. Upon removal of the plunger lock **350**, the plunger **30** may be freely advanced through the bore **40**. In some instances, the plunger lock **350** may include a

plurality of raised ribs **390**. The ribs **390** provide a tactile resistance to aid in removal from and insertion into groove **360**.

(56) The plunger lock **350** may be U-shaped and define a channel **382**. The channel **382** receives a portion of the tab **110**. Further, when fitted onto the tab **110**, a proximal portion **384** of the plunger lock **350** may be outwardly flexed. Consequently, the plunger lock **350** may be frictionally retained on the tab **110**.

(57) Referring to FIGS. **2** and **10**, in some implementations, the body portion **20** may include shoulders **392** formed in bore **40**. The shoulders **392** may be formed at a location in the bore **40** where the bore **40** narrows from an enlarged proximal portion **394** and a narrower distal portion **396**. In some instances, the shoulder **392** may be a curved surface. In other instances, the shoulder **392** may be defined a stepped change in the size of bore **40**.

(58) The cantilevered members **292** may engage the shoulder **392**. In some implementations, the flared portion **296** of the cantilevered members **292** may engage the shoulder **392**. In some instances, a location at which the cantilevered members **292** engage the shoulder **392** may be one in which the slot **380** aligns with the aperture **375**. Thus, in some implementations, engagement between the cantilevered members **292** and shoulder **392** may provide a convenient arrangement for insertion of the plunger lock **350** to lock the plunger **30** in place relative to the injector body **20**. In other implementations, the slot **380** and the aperture **375** may not align when the cantilevered members **292** engage the shoulder **392**.

(59) As the plunger **30** is advanced through the bore **40**, the flared portion **296** of the cantilevered members **292** may be inwardly displaced to comply with the narrowed distal portion **396** of the bore **40**. As a result of this deflection of the flared portion **296**, the cantilevered members **292** apply an increased normal force to the interior wall **298** of the bore **40**. This increased normal force generates a frictional force that resists advancement of the plunger **30** through bore **40**, thereby providing tactile feedback to the user.

(60) Referring to FIGS. **1** and **2**, the IOL injector may also include an IOL stop **400**. The IOL stop **400** is received into a recess **410** formed in an outer surface **420** the door **90**. The IOL stop **400** may include a protrusion **430** that extends through an opening **440** formed in the door. The protrusion **430** extends between a haptic and optic of an IOL loaded into the compartment **80**. As shown in FIGS. **1** and **27**, the IOL **70** includes haptics **450** and an optic **460**. The protrusion **430** is disposed between one of the haptics **450** and the optic **460**. The IOL stop **430** may also include a tab **435**. The tab **435** may be gripped by a user for removal of the IOL stop **430** from the injector body **20**.

(61) The IOL stop **400** may also include an aperture **470**. The aperture **470** aligns with another opening formed in the door **90**, for example opening **472** shown in FIG. **19**. The aperture **470** and second opening **472** in the door **90** form a passageway through which a material, such as a viscoelastic material, may be introduced into the compartment **80**.

(62) The IOL stop **400** is removable from the door **90**. When installed, the IOL stop **400** prevents advancement of the IOL, such as IOL **70**. Particularly, if advancement of the IOL **70** is attempted, the optic **460** contacts the protrusion **430**, thereby preventing advancement of the IOL **70**.

(63) FIG. **13** shows an example plunger tip **220**. The plunger tip **220** may include a first protrusion **480** and a second protrusion **490** extending from opposing sides. The first and second protrusions **480**, **490** define a first groove **500**. The first groove **500** defines a surface **502**. A second groove **510** is formed within the first groove **500**. The first groove **500**, particularly in combination with the first protrusion **480**, serves to capture and fold a trailing haptic of an IOL. The second groove **510** functions to capture and fold an optic of an IOL.

(64) A side wall **520** of the plunger tip **220** may be tapered. The tapered side wall **520** may provide a nesting space for a gusseted portion of the trailing haptic of an IOL. The gusseted portion of the haptic tends to remain proximal to the IOL optic. Thus, the tapered side wall **520** may provide a nesting space that promotes proper folding of the IOL during delivery into an eye.

(65) FIGS. **28-30** show another example plunger tip **220**. This plunger tip **220** includes a first

protrusion **600**, a second protrusion **602**, and a groove **604**. The first protrusion extends at an oblique angle θ from longitudinal axis **606**. In some instances, the angle θ may be between 25° to 60° . In other instances, the angle θ may be lower than 25° or larger than 60° . In other instances, the angle θ may be between 0° to 60° . In still other implementations, the angle θ may be between 0° and 70° ; 0° and 80° ; or 0° and 90° . Generally, the angle θ may be selected to be any desired angle. For example, the angle θ may be selected based on one or more of the following: (1) a size, such as a height, of passage **64** formed within the nozzle **60**; (2) the height of the compartment **80**; (3) how the height of the passage **64** and/or compartment varies along their respective lengths; and (3) the thickness of the plunger tip **220**. The second protrusion **602** may include a tapered portion **608**. The tapered portion **608** is operable to engage an optic of an IOL, such as optic **460** shown in FIG. 27. The optic may slide along the tapered surface so that the optic may be moved into the groove **604**. As a result, the second protrusion **602** is positioned adjacent to a surface of the optic.

(66) The example plunger tip **220** shown in FIGS. 28-30 also include a surface **610** that may be similar to the surface **502**. The surface **610** is adapted to contact and displace a trailing or proximally extending haptic, such as haptic **450** shown in FIG. 27, so that the haptic folds. In some instance, the surface **610** may be a flat surface. In other instances, the surface **610** may be a curved or otherwise contoured surface. The example plunger tip **220** may also include a side wall **612** and support surface **613**. Similar to the side wall **520**, the side wall **612** may be tapered, as shown in FIG. 30. In some instances, the side wall **612** may include a first curved portion **614**. The first curved portion **614** may receive a bent portion of the trailing haptic that remains proximal to the optic during folding. The trailing haptic is supported by support surface **613** during the folding process. The side wall **612** may also include a second curved surface **615**.

(67) The obliquely-extending first protrusion **600** effectively increases a height $H2$, as compared to the plunger tip **220** shown in FIG. 13, for example. This increased height $H2$ improves the ability of the plunger tip **220** to capture the trailing haptic during advancement of the plunger **30**. In operation, as the plunger **30** is advanced distally, the distal end **618** engages an interior wall of the delivery passage **127** due to changes in the height $H1$ of the delivery passage **127**. As the height $H1$ decreases, the first protrusion **600** pivots about hinge **620**, effectively reducing the total height $H2$ of the plunger tip **220**. As the first protrusion **600** pivots about hinge **620** and rotated in a direction towards the second protrusion **602**, the first protrusion **600** captures the trailing haptic between the optic of the IOL and the first protrusion **600**. Therefore, with the first protrusion **600** pivotable about the hinge **620**, the size of the plunger tip **220** is able to adapt and conform to the changing height $H1$ of the delivery passage **127** as the IOL is advanced distally and folded.

(68) FIG. 14 shows an interior surface **530** of door **90**. The surface **510** may include a ridge **530**. The ridge **530** may include a curved portion **540**. In the example illustrated, the curved portion **540** extends proximally and inwardly towards the longitudinal axis **75**. The curved portion **540** is configured to overlay a portion of a trailing haptic of an IOL, which promotes proper folding of the IOL when the plunger **30** is advanced through the injector body **20**.

(69) In operation, the plunger lock **350** may be inserted into the groove **360** to lock the plunger **30** in position relative to the injector body **20**. An IOL, such as IOL **70**, may be loaded into the compartment **80**. For example, the door **90** may be opened by a user and a desired IOL inserted into the compartment **80**. The door **90** may be closed upon insertion of the IOL into the compartment **80**. In some instances, an IOL may be preloaded during manufacturing.

(70) The IOL stop **400** may be inserted into the recess **410** formed in the door **90**. Viscoelastic material may be introduced into the compartment **80** via the aligned aperture **470** and corresponding opening formed in the door **90**. The viscoelastic material functions as a lubricant to promote advancement and folding of the IOL during advancement and delivery of the IOL into an eye. In some instances, the viscoelastic material may be introduced into the compartment **80** at the time of manufacturing.

(71) The IOL stop **400** may be removed from the recess **410** formed in the door **90**, and the plunger

lock 350 may be removed from the groove 360. The plunger 30 may be advanced through the bore 40. Sliding engagement between the cantilevered members 292 and the interior wall 298 of the injector body 20 generates a resistive force that resists advancement of plunger 30. In some instances, the plunger 30 may be advanced through the bore 40 until the plunger tip 220 extends into the compartment 80. For example, the plunger 30 may be advanced until the plunger tip 220 is adjacent to or in contact with the IOL. In other instances, the plunger 30 may be advanced through the bore 40 such that the IOL is partially or fully folded. Further, the plunger 30 may advance the IOL to a position within the nozzle just short of being ejected from the distal opening 125. For example, in some instances, advancement of the plunger 30, prior to insertion of the nozzle 120 into a wound formed in the eye, may be stopped at the point where the distal end 265 of the biasing element 260 contacts the proximal end 50 of the injector body 20, as shown in FIG. 15.

(72) Advancement of the plunger 30 through the injector body 20 is discussed below with reference to FIGS. 1, 8, and 13. In some instances, dimensional tolerances between the plunger 30 and the injector body 20 may permit relative movement between the plunger 30 and the injector body 20 such that the distal end portion 211 is able to move within bore 40 in the direction of arrows 471, 472 (referred to hereinafter as “tolerance movement”). In instances, particularly those in which the plunger 30 includes angled portion 212, the plunger tip 220 normally remains in contact with the interior wall 298 even if the plunger 30 experiences tolerance movement as the plunger 30 advances through bore 40. Thus, in some instances, notwithstanding any tolerance movement, the plunger tip 220 remains in contact with the interior wall 298. Accordingly, the second tapered wall 303 directs and centers the plunger tip 220 into the opening 170.

(73) If the plunger 30 experiences tolerance movement such that the plunger tip 220 no longer contacts the interior wall 298 of the bore 40, the first tapered wall 301, which includes the flexible wall portion 162, directs and centers the plunger tip 220 into the opening 170 formed at the interface 172, resulting in contact between the plunger tip 220 and the second tapered wall 303. When the plunger 30 becomes fully engaged with the injector body 20, the tolerance movement is substantially reduced or eliminated, ensuring that the plunger tip 220 remains engaged with the second tapered wall 303 and contoured ramp 180. In some instances, full engagement between the plunger 30 and the injector body 20 occurs when the cantilevered members 292 are fully engaged with the interior wall 298 of the bore 40. Consequently, in instances where tolerance movement may exist, upon full engagement between the plunger 30 and the injector body 20, the flexible wall portion 162 no longer influences the position of the plunger 30. In any case, once the plunger tip 220 advances through opening 170, the flexible wall portion 162 no longer affects the directional path of plunger 30 nor any part thereof.

(74) As the plunger tip 220 is advanced through the compartment 80 in sliding contact with the receiving surface 190, the first groove 500 of the plunger tip 220 is positioned to engage the trailing haptic of IOL, such as trailing haptic 450 of IOL 70, as shown in FIG. 8. As the plunger tip 220 is further advanced, the plunger tip 220 encounters the contoured ramp 180 and is forced vertically towards the door 90. This vertical displacement of the plunger tip 220, while remaining in contact with the receiving surface 190, both folds the trailing haptic up over the optic of the IOL as well as align the second groove 510 of the plunger tip 220 with a trailing edge of the haptic. Particularly, the surface 502 of the plunger tip 220 contacts and displaces the haptic 450 as the plunger tip 220 is passed along the contoured surface 180, thereby folding the trailing haptic 450. As the trailing haptic 450 folds, the contoured surface 192 and wall 194 work in concert to both locate the freely extending end 452 of the trailing haptic 450 above and over the optic 460. The profile of the contoured surface 192 operates to lift the trailing haptic 450 as the plunger tip 220 is displaced towards the distal end 60 of the injector body 20. The wall 194 constrains lateral movement of the freely extending end 452 of the trailing haptic 450, which cause the haptic to move distally relative to the optic 460. Consequently, the trailing haptic 450 is both raised above and folded over the optic 460 as the plunger tip 220 contacts the trailing haptic 450 and follows

along the contoured ramp **180**. As the plunger tip **220** is further advanced, the second groove **510** accepts the trailing edge of the optic **460**, and the plunger tip **220** is displaced vertically away from the door **90** due to a combination of influences from both the decreasing slope of the contoured ramp **180** and the angled portion **212** of the plunger rod **210**. Movement of the plunger tip **220** in the manner described provides for improved engagement and folding of the IOL **70**.

(75) FIG. **19** is a detail view of a portion of the distal end **60** of the injector body **20**. The distal end **60** includes a tapered portion **62** and the insertion depth guard **140**. The distal end **265** of the biasing element **260** may engage the proximal end **50** of the injector body **20** to define a pause location of the folded or partially folded IOL. The nozzle **120** may include a demarcation **1900** that provides a visual indication of the pause position. For example, in the example shown in FIG. **19**, the demarcation **1900** is a narrow ridge or line that encircles all or a portion of the distal end **60**. In some instances, the demarcation **1900** may be disposed between the tapered portion **62** and the insertion depth guard **140**. At least a portion of the injector body **20** may be formed from a transparent or semi-transparent material that permits a user to see an IOL within the injector body **20**. Particularly, the distal end **60** of the injector body **20** may be formed from a transparent material to permit observation of the IOL as it is moved therethrough by the plunger **30**.

(76) FIG. **20** shows a view of the distal end **60** of the IOL injector **10** with IOL **70** located therein at a pause position. As shown in FIG. **20**, the pause position of the IOL may be defined as a location where the distal edge **462** of optic **460** of the IOL **70** substantially aligns with the demarcation **1900**. A haptic **450** or a portion thereof may extend beyond the demarcation **1900**. Again, the pause position may also correspond to the initial engagement of the distal end **265** of the biasing element **260** with the proximal end **50** of the injector body **20**. Therefore, the pause location may be jointly indicated by positioning of the IOL, or part thereof, relative to the demarcation **1900** and the initial contact between the distal end **265** of the biasing element **260**.

(77) In other instances, a location of the IOL relative to the distal opening **12** of the nozzle **120** when the distal end **256** of the biasing element **260** contacts the proximal end **50** of the injector body **20** may vary. In some instances, the IOL may be partially ejected from the distal opening **125** when the distal end **265** of the biasing element **260** contacts the proximal end **50** of the injector body **20**. For example, in some instances, approximately half of the IOL may be ejected from the distal opening **125** when the distal end **256** of the biasing element **260** contacts the proximal end **50** of the injector body **20**. In other instances, the IOL may be contained wholly within the IOL injector when the distal end **256** of the biasing element **260** contacts the proximal end **50** of the injector body **20**.

(78) FIG. **21** shows a cross sectional view of the opening **170** formed at the interface **172**. In some instances, the opening **170** may define a “T” shape. The plunger tip **220** is shown disposed at the opening **170** with the flexible wall portion **162** contacting a surface **214** of the plunger rod **210**. In some instances, the cross section of the plunger rod **210** increases towards the proximal end of the plunger rod **210**. Thus, as the plunger rod **210** is advanced through the opening **170**, the plunger rod **210** fills the opening as a result of the increasing cross section. Portions **173** and **175** of the opening **170** are filled by flanges **213**, **215** (shown in FIG. **11**).

(79) As the opening **170** is filled by the increasing cross section of the plunger rod **210** as the plunger rod **210** is advanced distally through the injector body **20**, the flexible wall portion **162** is flexed in the direction of arrow **471** to permit passage of the plunger rod **210**, as shown in FIG. **22**. Further, as a result of the angled portion **212** of the plunger rod **210**, the contoured ramp **180**, and the folding of IOL **70** as it is advanced through the IOL injector **10**, the plunger tip **220** is made to follow a defined path through the compartment **80**, the distal end **60**, and nozzle **120** uninfluenced by the flexible wall portion **162**.

(80) FIG. **22** shows the flexible wall portion **162** being flexed in the direction of **471** as the plunger rod **210** continues to advance distally through the IOL injector **10**. Further, FIG. **22** also shows the plunger tip **220** engaged with IOL **70** such that trailing haptic **450** is received into the first groove

500 at a location offset from the second groove **510**, and the proximal edge of the optic **460** is received into the second groove **510**.

(81) As the IOL **70** is advanced through the passage **64** of the distal end **60**, the IOL **70** is folded into a reduced size to permit passage of the IOL **70** through the nozzle **120** and into the eye. During folding of the IOL **70**, a resistive force on the plunger **30** is increased. Once the IOL **70** is fully folded **70**, the resistive force on the plunger **30** generally reduces.

(82) A wound may be formed in the eye. The wound may be sized to accommodate the nozzle **120** of the IOL injector **10**. The nozzle **120** may be inserted into the wound. The nozzle **120** may be advanced through the wound until the flanged surface **150** of the insertion depth guard **140** abuts the exterior surface of the eye. Contact between the insertion depth guard **140** and the exterior surface of the eye limits the depth to which the nozzle **120** may be inserted into the eye, preventing unnecessary stress on the edges of the wound as well as preventing enlargement of the wound due to over insertion of the IOL injector **10**. Consequently, the insertion depth guard **140** operates to reduce additional trauma to the eye and enlargement of the wound.

(83) With the nozzle properly positioned within the eye through the wound, the user may complete delivery of the folded IOL into the eye. Referring again to FIG. **15**, as advancement of the plunger **30** continues, the biasing element **260** is compressed (indicated by the dotted outline of biasing element **260**). Compression of biasing element **260** increases a resistive force to advancement of the plunger **30**, also referred to as plunging force. This additional resistance to advancement of the plunger **30** diminishes changes to the plunging force associated with the folding of the IOL prior to insertion into the eye. Further, in some instances, the biasing element **260** may be made to contact the injector body **120** when, or proximate to when, the IOL **70** has fully folded so that the a reduction in resistive force that may result from the IOL **70** being fully folded may be offset by the compression of the biasing element **260**. This increase in resistive force provided by compression of the biasing element **260**, particularly in light of a reduction that may result due to the IOL **70** being fully folded, provides improved tactile feedback to a user, such as a medical profession, during delivery of the IOL **70** into an eye. This improved tactical feedback provides the user with improved control during delivery of the IOL **70**, which may prevent rapid expulsion of the IOL **70** into the eye.

(84) As a result, the user is able to provide a smooth application of force without experiencing any sudden or rapid changes in advancement of the plunger **30**. Such sudden or rapid changes may result in the IOL being rapidly expelled from an injector. Rapid expulsion of an IOL into an eye may cause damage, such as perforation of the capsular bag. Such damage may increase the time required to complete the surgical procedure and may increase the harm caused immediately and post operatively to the patient. Upon insertion of the IOL into the eye, the IOL injector **10** may be withdrawn from the eye.

(85) FIGS. **23-26** show example advancement stops operable to prevent actuation of biasing element **260**. For example, in some instances, the example advancement stops are operable to prevent compression of the biasing element **260** and prevent advancement of the plunger **30** through the injector body **20** beyond a selected amount. Referring to FIGS. **23** and **24**, an advancement stop **2300** is shown coupled to the body portion **200** of the plunger **30** between the flange **240** and the collar **261** of biasing element **260**. The advancement stop **2300** may be moved into engagement with the plunger **30** laterally in the direction of arrow **2310**. Similarly, the advancement stop **220** may be removed from the plunger **30** laterally displacing the advancement stop **2300** in the direction of arrow **2320**. The advancement stop **2300** may be retained on the plunger **30** such as by a frictional engagement and/or a detent between one or more portions of the plunger **30** and the advancement stop **2300**. A user may manipulate the advancement stop **2300** via a tab **2330** formed thereon. The advancement stop **2300** may be formed from a rigid material, such as a polymer, composite material, metal, or any other suitable material.

(86) Inclusion of the advancement stop **2300** onto the plunger **30** prevents actuation of the biasing

element **260** and further advancement of the plunger **30** through the injector body **20** when the distal end **265** of the biasing element **260** contacts the proximal end **50** of the injector body **20**. Any force acting on the distal end **265** of the biasing element **260** is transmitted from the collar **261** through the advancement stop **2300** and into the flange **240**. In some instances, inclusion of the advancement stop **2300** may be useful to prevent sudden ejection of an IOL from IOL injector **10** due, for example, to excessive forces applied to the IOL injector **10** by the user. In other instances, the advancement stop **2300** may be included in order to ensure that advance of the IOL ceases upon reaching a selected location within the IOL injector **10**. For example, the advancement stop **2300** may prevent further advancement of the IOL once the IOL has reached the pause position. However, an advancement stop, such as the advancement stops described herein, need not be included or otherwise utilized with the IOL injector **10**.

(87) FIGS. **25-26** illustrate another example implementation of an advancement stop. Example advancement stop **2500** is shown coupled to the plunger **30**. The advancement stop **2500** includes a central member **2510** with arc-shaped wings **2520** extending therefrom. The central member **2510** has an arcuate cross-section that is received onto the body portion **200** of the plunger **30**. The arc shape of the wings **2520** may conform or substantially conform to the shape of the biasing element **260**. The advancement stop **2500** may be retained on the plunger **30** such as by a frictional engagement and/or a detent between one or more portions of the plunger, e.g., biasing element **260** and/or body portion **200**, to name a few examples, and the advancement stop **2500**, e.g., surfaces of the advancement stop **2500** abutting the biasing element **260**, the collar **261**, and/or flange **240**, to name a few examples. The advancement stop **2500** may be formed from a rigid material, such as a polymer, composite material, metal, or any other suitable material.

(88) Advancement stop **2500** may operate similarly to the advancement stop **2300**. When coupled to the plunger **30**, the advancement stop **2500** limits an amount the plunger **30** may be displaced within the injector body **20**. In some instances, when the plunger **30** has been displaced within the injector body **20** by the selected amount, a distal end of the central member **2510** contacts the proximal end **50** of the injector body **20**. The central member **2510** transmits any force to the flange **240**, thereby preventing actuation of the biasing element **260**. In other instances, the collar **261** may contact the proximal end **50** of the injector body **20**. However, the close engagement between the biasing element **260** and the conforming wings **2520** prevents outward flexure of the biasing element **260**, thereby preventing actuation of the biasing element **260**.

(89) Although the disclosure provides numerous examples, the scope of the present disclosure is not so limited. Rather, a wide range of modification, change, and substitution is contemplated in the foregoing disclosure. It is understood that such variations may be made to the foregoing without departing from the scope of the present disclosure.

Claims

1. An intraocular lens injector comprising: an injector body comprising: a bore defined by an interior wall; an insertion depth guard disposed at a distal end of the injector body, the insertion depth guard comprising a concave curved flanged surface with a curvature that corresponds to an eye; and a nozzle extending distally beyond the insertion depth guard and fixed to the insertion depth guard; and a plunger slideable in the bore; wherein the concave curved flanged surface has radii of curvature extending from a center displaced beyond an end of the nozzle distally.
2. The intraocular lens injector of claim 1, wherein the concave curved flanged surface is a spherical surface.
3. The intraocular lens injector of claim 1, wherein the plunger comprises: a body portion; and a biasing element disposed adjacent to a proximal end of the body portion, the biasing element deformable upon engagement with the injector body to produce a force resistive to further advancement of the plunger through the bore.

4. The intraocular lens injector of claim 3, wherein the biasing element comprises a channel, and wherein the body portion of the plunger extends through the channel.
5. The intraocular lens injector of claim 1, wherein the injector body further comprises: a tab formed at a proximal end thereof; a groove extending through the tab; and an aperture aligned with the groove.
6. The intraocular lens injector of claim 5 further comprising a plunger stop comprising a protrusion, wherein the plunger stop is removably received in the groove such that the protrusion extends through the aperture and into a slot formed in the plunger.
7. The intraocular lens injector of claim 6, wherein the plunger comprises a cantilevered member, wherein the bore comprises a shoulder, and the aperture formed in the injector body aligns with the slot formed in the plunger when the cantilevered member engages the shoulder.
8. The intraocular lens injector of claim 1, wherein the plunger comprises a cantilevered member and wherein the cantilevered member deflectively engages the interior wall of the bore as the plunger is advanced through the bore.
9. The intraocular lens injector of claim 1 further comprising an advancement stop removably coupled to the plunger, the advancement stop adapted to limit an amount by which the plunger is permitted to advance through the bore.
10. The intraocular lens injector of claim 1, wherein the nozzle and the insertion depth guard are made of a single piece of material.
11. An intraocular lens injector comprising: an injector body comprising: a bore defined by an interior wall; a nozzle formed at a distal end of the injector body; and a plunger slideable in the bore, the plunger comprising a plunger tip that includes: a first groove that extends longitudinally from the plunger tip and along at least a portion of a first lateral side of the plunger without extending along a second lateral side of the plunger opposite the first lateral side, the first lateral side and the second lateral side extending generally along a longitudinal axis defined by the plunger, the first groove forming a first shelf, the first shelf generally parallel with a bottom-most surface of the plunger and open to a space adjacent to a top-most surface of the plunger, and a second groove extending laterally from the first lateral side to the second lateral side.
12. The intraocular lens injector of claim 11, wherein the second groove is formed at a first end of the first groove.
13. The intraocular lens injector of claim 12, wherein a second end of the first groove opposite the first end is configured to capture a trailing haptic of an intraocular lens disposed in the injector body, and wherein the second groove is adapted to capture a proximal end of an optic of the intraocular lens.
14. The intraocular lens injector of claim 11, wherein the plunger comprises a plunger rod, and wherein at least a portion of the plunger rod is angularly offset from a longitudinal axis of the plunger rod.
15. The intraocular lens injector of claim 11, wherein the injector body further comprises an insertion depth guard disposed at a distal end of the injector body and wherein the insertion depth guard comprises a flanged surface.
16. The intraocular lens injector of claim 15, wherein a cross-sectional dimension of the insertion depth guard is larger than a cross-sectional dimension of the nozzle.
17. The intraocular lens injector of claim 15, wherein the flanged surface is a curved surface.
18. The intraocular lens injector of claim 11, wherein the plunger comprises: a biasing element disposed adjacent to a proximal end of the plunger, the biasing element deformable upon engagement with the injector body to produce a force resistive to further advancement of the plunger through the bore.
19. The intraocular lens injector of claim 18, wherein the biasing element comprises a channel, and wherein a body portion of the plunger extends through the channel.
20. The intraocular lens injector of claim 11 further comprising an advancement stop removably

coupled to the plunger, the advancement stop adapted to limit an amount by which the plunger is permitted to advance through the bore.
