Claims

1. An ophthalmic lens for controlling myopic progression, the ophthalmic lens comprising a distance vision lens portion for correcting myopia by focusing light to a first location and a plurality of electrically-addressable lens portions addressable to focus light to a second location closer to the lens than the first location

wherein at least one of the plurality of electrically-addressable lens portions is configured to focus light to the first location in the absence of an electrical signal to the electrically-addressable lens portion; and

at least one of the plurality of electrically-addressable lens portions is configured to focus light to a second location in the absence of an electrical signal to the electrically-addressable lens portion, wherein the second location is the same or is not the same for each of the plurality of electrically-addressable portions.

2. The ophthalmic lens according to claim 1, in which the distance vision lens portion is an inner lens portion, and the at least one electrically-addressable lens portion is an outer lens portion.

3. The ophthalmic lens according to claim 1, in which at least one of the plurality of electrically-addressable lens portions is located inward of the distance vision lens portion.

4. The ophthalmic lens according to any preceding claim, in which the distance vision lens portion has a fixed optical power, when on the eye of a wearer.

5. The ophthalmic lens according to any of claims 1 to 3, in which the optical power of the distance vision lens portion is variable.

6. The ophthalmic lens according to claim 5, in which the distance vision lens portion is electrically-addressable between a first configuration in which the distance vision lens portion is configured to correct myopia and a second, different, configuration.

7. The ophthalmic lens according to any preceding claim, in which at least one of the plurality of electrically-addressable lens portions is addressable to focus light into one of a plurality of different second locations.

8. The ophthalmic lens according to any preceding claim, in which at least one of the plurality of electrically-addressable lens portions is addressable to focus light into one of a plurality of different third locations further from the lens than the first and second locations.

9. The ophthalmic lens according to any preceding claim, in which the plurality of electrically-addressable lens portions comprises a first electrically-addressable lens portion and a second electrically-addressable lens portion that (i) together form an annulus or (ii) are annular.

10. The ophthalmic lens according to claim 8, comprising first, second, third and fourth electrically-addressable lens portions, each of the first second, third and fourth annular portions comprising an annular sector, the annular sectors together forming an annulus.

11. The ophthalmic lens according to any preceding claim, in which at least one of the plurality of electrically-addressable lens portions is user-controllable.

12. The ophthalmic lens according to any preceding claim, in which at least one of the plurality of electrically-addressable lens portions is provided by a liquid crystal cell comprising a liquid crystal.

13. The ophthalmic lens according to claim 12, in which the liquid crystal cell has a first state, in which the electrically-addressable lens portion comprising the liquid crystal cell is configured to focus light to the second location.

14. The ophthalmic lens according to claim 13, in which the liquid crystal cell is changeable between the first state and a second state, in which second state the electrically-addressable lens portion comprising the liquid crystal cell is configured to focus light to the second location.

15. The ophthalmic lens according to any of claims 12 to 14, in which the liquid crystal is disposed between two surfaces, each of which is provided by an alignment layer for aligning liquid crystal, at least one alignment layer being configured to align the liquid crystal in a homeotropic configuration, and at least one alignment layer being configured to align the liquid crystal in a homeotropic configuration when the liquid crystal is in one of a switched and an unswitched state, and to align the liquid crystal in a preferred planar configuration when the liquid crystal is in the other of the switched and unswitched states.

16. The ophthalmic lens according to any preceding claim, in which the ophthalmic lens is a contact lens or a spectacle lens.

17. A system for controlling myopic progression, the system comprising an ophthalmic lens in accordance with any preceding claim and a user control module for controlling the operation of the ophthalmic lens.

18. Spectacles comprising at least one ophthalmic lens in accordance with claim 16.

19. A method of controlling myopic progression, the method comprising providing a wearer suffering from myopia or at risk of developing myopia with an ophthalmic lens according to any of claims 1 to 16.

20. The method according to claim 19 comprising causing at least one of the plurality of electrically-addressable lens portions to focus light to a second location, optionally in front of the retina of the wearer, and causing at least one of the plurality of electrically-addressable lens portions to focus light to a first location, on to the retina of the wearer.