people who are nearsighted often comment that for as long as they can remember, trying to see at a distance without their eyeglasses or contact lenses has always been a struggle. This was most definitively true for Stacia Moffitt and Jessica Page. Stacia and Jessica are patients of Dr. Jason Darlington at The Eye Institute for Medicine & Surgery.

Fortunately, for these two ladies, like countless other patients who feel the same way, the process of vision correction is much easier than ever before. Stacia and Jessica each presented with vision that was quite similar, explains Jason K. Darlington, MD, The Director ofVision Correction at The Eye Institute. “They’re both about a minus-five or a minus-six in each eye, but each one chose a different treatment to achieve the vision correction they were seeking.”

Stacia chose to have LASIK surgery. Jessica, chose implantable contact lenses to correct her vision. She liked the fact that the lens could be removed and the procedure reversed if she desired and she appreciated the studies that showed that ICLs provided a superior quality of vision with a lesser possibility of experiencing glare at night. During LASIK surgery, a high technology laser gently reshapes the inner portion of the cornea to bring images into clear focus. The ICL procedure involves placing a special intraocular lens inside the eye. “It is like a contact lens that requires no maintenance and that never needs to be removed,” explains Dr. Darlington.

During the implantation procedure, a micro-incision is created, and the contact lens is placed in the eye by tucking it under the iris and in front of the natural lens, informs Dr. Darlington, who performs both procedures at The Eye Institute for Medicine & Surgery. “One of the true benefits patients receive when they come to The Eye Institute for Medicine & Surgery,” says Dr. Michael N. Mandese, OD, “is that Dr. Darlington has been trained to do multiple procedures. "Stacia is a nurse who works in labor and delivery, and I was actually referred over to them by a patient all day, your glasses tend to fall off sometime. They’re really a nuisance.” Jessica, who has been wearing glasses since she was eight, had similar life experiences due to her nearsightedness. Now, she’s an Information Systems Director, whose professional responsibilities make it difficult to wear contact lenses due to dry, irritated eyes, which result from excessive computer use.

Similar to Stacia, Jessica made the decision to discontinue contact lens wear and switch to wearing glasses nearly exclusively. ‘The glasses, however, quickly proved to be less than ideal for many of her activities and personal interests. ‘I love to horseback ride, but wearing glasses when horseback riding is one of the most miserable things you can imagine,’ Jessica states. “Having to constantly push my glasses back on my face, detracted greatly from the fun of riding.”

Your Choice

Like thousands of other people, these two ladies spent years wondering what life would be like without the constant need for eyeglasses or contact lenses, but like any wise potential consumer of healthcare, both were hesitant to have permanent corrective surgery performed.

Stacia found The Eye Institute after her regular eye doctor eased her concerns about LASIK surgery and recommended Dr. Darlington. Jessica sought out an eye surgeon specializing in implantable contact lenses or ICLs, after she personally researched her vision correction options and determined that ICLs might be the best way to correct her nearsightedness.

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Better Than 20/20

Jessica, who was concerned about developing chronically dry eyes and liked the idea of an alternative to making a permanent change to her eyes, reports that the ICL procedure was easy, painless and highly effective. “The surgery itself was relatively quick – in-and-out – and the recovery was easy,” she reports. “I could see without glasses as soon as I came out of surgery, and now I’ve got awesome vision that I’ll have for years and years without any maintenance.”

Stacia, who had her LASIK surgery this past January, says her vision is better than it’s ever been and she still can’t believe how much easier and more enjoyable life has become for her now that she’s glasses free. “My vision is 20/15 in both eyes now, which is amazing,” she says. “And I’m still amazed that every morning when I wake up, I don’t have to put on my glasses to see. I’m just so thankful that I found someone I could trust to do this for me.”

As a nurse, I’m very particular about whom I see for my own health care needs, but I definitely picked the right place when I decided to have the doctors at The Eye Institute for Medicine and Surgery do my LASIK surgery. “Everyone there is so professional and caring and understanding of your concerns. I was completely comfortable, and I’ve already recommended them to people who have been thinking of getting the same procedure done. I told them, ‘You won’t find a better place.’”

Comprehensive eye evaluations

When it comes to your eyesight, only the best will do. Please call to schedule a comprehensive eye examination with one of the specialists at The Eye Institute for Medicine & Surgery. There are four offices to serve you.

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