

Say Goodbye to your glasses

This technology, known as the Acrysof ReSTOR lens, is one of the biggest breakthroughs in cataract surgery in the last decade.

As the space shuttle Discovery carried the rotor that he helped design and develop to the space station Ben Murach had his mind on another type of space: his immediate environment. For more than 30 years Ben Murach had been wearing glasses or contact lenses to see objects at near and far distances. A recent advance in eye surgery allowed him to eliminate glasses and contact lenses permanently. This technology, known as the Acrysof ReSTOR lens, is one of the biggest breakthroughs in cataract surgery in the last decade.

"I don't need my glasses or contact lenses for reading, working at my computer or driving," said Ben Murach.

He was convinced to have cataract surgery performed by Dr. Randal Pham, founder of Aesthetic & Refractive Surgery Medical Center, after meeting Odine Wiens, who wore glasses since she was 5 years old. Odine Wiens who just retired from her 20-year job as a child nutrition assistant at Ever green school district, had the procedure done by Dr. Pham more than one year ago. "My grandson asked me why I don't wear glasses anymore?" said Odine Wiens.

"I told him 'grandma had eye surgery and doesn't need to wear glasses' and he said 'but grandma always wear glasses; if she doesn't wear glasses she can't be grandma'," laughed Odine Wiens.

The human lens is like a camera lens. It helps focus light onto the retina, which is like the film of the camera. The human lens is made up of mostly water and protein. The protein lets light pass through and focus on the retina. As the eye ages the protein clumps together and starts to cloud a small area of the lens.

The clumps also make the lens hardened; this hardening of the human lens causes people to have difficulty seeing up close. This loss of ability to see up close is called presbyopia. The cloudy area in the human lens is called a cataract.

For years surgeons across the U.S. removed cataracts and implanted man-made lens to replace the natural lens.

This procedure is called cataract surgery. "This is one of the safest procedures performed in the U.S. today," said Dr. Pham. Each year millions of American undergo cataract surgeries across the U.S. Patients who undergo conventional

cataract surgery still need to wear reading glasses after surgery. Because the Acrysof ReSTOR lens works like progressive glasses patients who have this lens can perform most daily activities without any glasses.

"To implant the Acrysof ReSTOR lens, however, requires very precise and skillful work," said Dr. Pham. Because patients who undergo implantation of the Acrysof ReSTOR lens have high expectations they expect to be less dependent on glasses after the procedure, measurements made before the surgery and the surgery itself must be extremely accurate. The natural lens of a normal eye stays in a clear sac called the capsule. To remove the cataract, the surgeon first makes an opening in the capsule. The surgeon then removes the cataract from the capsule using ultrasound.

The surgeon must save the capsule in order to place a man-made lens inside the capsule. If the capsule is broken during the procedure and there is a large tear in the capsule the substance that normally stays behind the capsule moves forward.

This substance is called vitreous. When this happens, the surgeon can not place the man-made lens inside the capsule where the natural lens normally sits; the surgeon may place a different type of lens either in the corner between

the iris and the capsule or in front of theiris. These lenses are called sulcus-fixedated if they are placed in the corner between the iris and the capsule. If they are placed in front of the iris they are called anterior chamber lenses.

When sulcus-fixedated or anterior chamber lenses are used because their locations are not where the natural lens sits, the resulted power of the eye may differ from the calculated power which was measured before the surgery with the natural lens sitting inside the capsule.

This difference in the calculated power and the resulted power may cause patients to require glasses or contact lenses after surgery.

Ashley Stice, representative of Alcon Inc., the manufacturer of the Acrysof ReSTOR lens, confirms that of more than 150 Acrysof ReSTOR lenses implanted by Dr. Randal Pham, there has been no conversion to sulcus-fixedated lens or anterior chamber lens implanted.

"It is of utmost importance that you choose the right surgeon for this procedure," said Odine Wiens. Ben Murach agreed: "You only have two eyes; for a procedure that requires exceptional skills and knowledge of refractive surgery I did extensive research to find a surgeon who is competent in both lasik and cataract surgeries."

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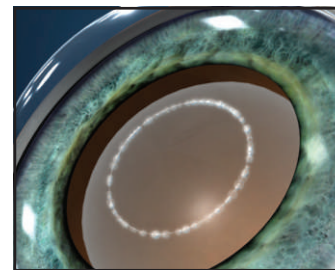
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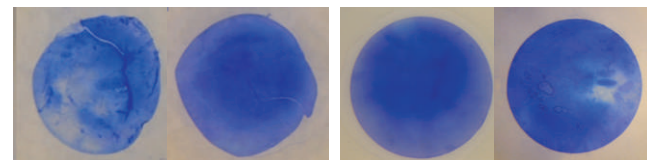
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*An independent study found 85% of patients who received the Acrysof ReSTOR intraocular lens never had to wear glasses. Mrs. Odine Wiens and Mr. Ben Murach are actual patients of Dr. Randal Pham. Neither of them receives any monetary compensation for their testimonials. This ad was reviewed and approved by the Medical Board of California.

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