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The Best Vision Newsletter

Intacs® for Keratoconus

Keratoconus is a bilateral corneal disease affecting one in 2,000 people across all races, It typically begins during teen years and progresses at varying rates until stabilizing by age 40. Keraoconus manifests as a thinning of the cornea which progressively bulges into a cone-like shape, distorting the eyes refractive properties and causing poor vision. . Although keratoconus rarely results in total blindness, 20% of all patients will eventually require a corneal transplant. Visual quality can be restored with spectacle correction in mild cases but more advanced stages require rigid contact lenses. A proper contact lens fit is crucial to insure optimal vision and comfort. With time and disease progression, the cornea may become so warped, that contact lenses cannot be tolerated. Historically, cornea transplantation has proven to be a successful treatment option for those patients with late stage keratoconus. However, even after a transplant, glasses or contact lenses are usually required and visual rehabilitation may take many months to achieve.

Intacs® (Intrastromal cornea ring segments) were originally designed and FDA approved to correct mild nearsightedness. In July 2004 the FDA approved Intacs® for keratoconus under a Humanitarian Device Exemption. Specifically, Intacs® inserts are indicated to reduce myopia and astigmatism in patients with keratoconus and to restore functional vision in those who are no longer able to achieve adequate vision with contact lenses or glasses. Intacs® may delay or ultimately prevent the need for cornea transplantation,

- Intacs® For keratoconus mirror **safety** of FDA-approved Intacs® for myopia
- Intacs® flatten and shift the cone centrally, making the cornea shape more prolate
- Intacs® add structural integrity to the cornea without invading the optical zone
- Intacs® Are **removable** if required preserving the option for Cornea Transplantation
- Intacs® may **restore tolerance to contact lenses** improving Best Corrected Vision Acuity and functional vision throughout day.
- Intacs® restore functional vision by allowing many patients to be effectively corrected with contact lenses or glasses if needed

Clinical results of Intacs® for Keraoconus

- 71% gained 1 or more lines of Best Corrected Visual Acuity
- 73% gained 2 or more lines in Uncorrected Visual Acuity
- Eyes with worse preop acuity had greater improvements in post op acuity
- Eyes with cornea scarring also showed improvement

Richard A Erdey, MD is accepting referrals to consider Intacs® for your patients with Keratoconus who are contact lens intolerant and have poor vision in spectacles

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We dedicate ourselves to enhancing the quality of life for every individual whose life we touch, by helping each to see his or her best, and by preserving our patients' vision and eye health throughout life.

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