LASIK vs Contacts

LASIK vs Contacts: What Are You REALLY Spending?

You may find this hard to believe but, over the next 10 years, you will spend between $2,000 and $6,000 on contact lenses, contact lens fitting, contact lens solutions and glasses. That's as much if not more than you will spend on LASIK in New Jersey and New York. Do the math!

We realize that the problem for most people is the higher up-front cost of LASIK. However, with our affordable payment plans you can spread the financial burden over time to fit your budget. Think of it like leasing a car vs. buying one. Which one is more affordable over the long term?

Contact Lenses and LASIK – Safety Comparison:

Did you know that dozens of patients every year suffer from vision loss due to the wearing of contact lenses? In fact, you have a 1 in 100 chance of damaging your corneas due to a serious lens-related infection if you wear contact lenses for 30 years, especially if you wear them overnight.

The age-old belief that contact lenses are safer than laser vision correction surgery may not be true. According to a study published in the Archives of Ophthalmology, October 2006 edition, researchers confirmed that LASIK surgery is safer than contact lens use.

It’s difficult to compare contact lens use with laser vision surgery because any vision loss from contact lenses accumulates over time, while any vision loss from refractive surgery usually occurs shortly after surgery. The study indicated that vision-threatening infections from wearing contact lenses occurred in 1 in 2,000 contact lens wearers, whereas only one in 10,000 patients had significant vision loss due to complications from LASIK, making LASIK the safest elective procedure being performed today.

Risks of Contact Lens Wear

Keep in mind that, with contact lenses, you are putting a foreign body into your eye. If you don’t take great care to avoid serious bacterial infections (bacterial keratitis), the infections could lead to vision loss. The potential risks are widely known to eye doctors and tens of millions of Americans may be at risk. The infections are difficult to prevent. Patients who abuse contact lenses by wearing them overnight or improperly caring for them have an even greater risk.

The risk of vision loss from LASIK and other laser vision correction has been diminishing as technology continues to improve. Next-generation microkeratomes and bladeless LASIK technologies have provided a new level of safety and accuracy. In addition, Custom LASIK not only provides better vision but also helps eliminate night glare, one of the common complaints of patients in the early days of LASIK surgery.
LASIK is not risk-free but, as you can see, wearing contacts has its own risks. If you are thinking about LASIK, the most important thing you can do to prevent any potential vision loss is to find the most skilled surgeon to perform your LASIK procedure.

**About Custom (Wavefront) LASIK**

**Find a LASIK Surgeon**

**Say Goodbye to the Hassles of Wearing Contacts & Glasses**

What are the lifestyle costs of wearing contacts or glasses?

- Are you comfortable wearing contact lenses or glasses every day?
- How much time do you spend cleaning and caring for your contacts and glasses?
- Have you ever forgotten your contact supplies when you travel?
- Have you ever had a contact lens-related eye infection?
- Have you accidentally broken your glasses and had to make an urgent visit to the eye doctor to replace them?
- Do you hike or work outdoors and continually struggle to keep your contacts clean?

When you consider the possibility of infections, the hassle of glasses and contacts, and the lifetime costs of wearing them, maybe it’s time to consider LASIK eye surgery!

**Consider 5th Avenue Eye Center**

**Ilan Cohen MD** is one of the nation’s most renowned cornea and refractive surgeons. He has performed 10,000+ successful LASIK surgeries in New York and New Jersey and will take special care to make sure you get the most appropriate treatment for your unique vision problem.

5th Avenue Eye Center is your best choice for LASIK eye surgery in Manhattan, Glendale, the greater NYC area, and Old Bridge, NJ. If you’re interested in learning more about LASIK, cataract surgery, or alternative laser vision correction options in Queens or Middlesex county, New Jersey, contact us about a LASIK consultation today. Call us at (212) 764-2020 or click the button below. We’re focused on improving your vision!

**Schedule a FREE Consultation!**