Health Awareness

How Do We Know LASIK Is Safe?

(NAPSA)—For those thinking about their vision correction options, the question "Is LASIK safe?" is likely top of mind. To answer, ophthalmologist and chair of the Refractive Surgery Clinical Committee for the American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery, John Velich, M.D., provides hard data.

LASIK has been around for a long time, 20 years, with 19.1 million procedures in the U.S. alone. An enormous amount of research has been conducted: There are more than 7,000 peer-reviewed clinical studies on LASIK, performance, safety and outcomes. Based

Your ophthalmologist is the expert on your eye health and vision correction options.

on that science, we know LASIK is very safe and has a less than 1 percent risk of sight-threatening complications. In fact, studies show LASIK is safer than long-term contact lens wear, where the risk of infection is actually pretty high.

The patient satisfaction rate with LASIK is more than 96 percent, the highest of any elective medical procedure available today. However, LASIK isn’t for everyone. The only way to know for certain is to have a thorough eye exam with a highly qualified refractive surgeon to find out if you are a good candidate and then decide if it is right for you and your vision.