



## Know Pro's And Con's Of LASIK Before Deciding

by Howard B. Purcell

(NAPSA)—Many people, it seems, are eyeing a surgical process for correcting refractive errors. The process is called LASIK, which stands for Laser-Assisted in Situ Keratomileusis.



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LASIK is the most widely promoted eye surgery today. So far, this still relatively new procedure has been quite successful in correcting vision problems in most patients.

Consumers are advised, however, to proceed carefully if they are considering LASIK. Do not make your decision based on price. Choose your surgeon wisely based on his or her experience. While LASIK does bring clearer vision to many patients, long-term results are not known and your early results may not be lasting. In addition, the procedure has caused long-term problems for some patients. Some LASIK patients report seeing haloes and glare from lights following the procedure. As a result, they have increased difficulty driving their cars at night. Others have found their vision to be worse after the surgery than it was before. For more information about these potential problems and other detailed information about LASIK, check out the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's Web site [www.fda.gov/cdrh/lasik](http://www.fda.gov/cdrh/lasik).

Experts strongly urge that you do your homework before determining if LASIK is right for you. Knowing your risks as well as rewards can be an eye-opening experience.

Any kind of elective surgery is a major decision, particularly when it comes to something as precious as your vision. Make sure you have all the facts before you, and then consult with at least two Eye Care Professionals before making up your mind.

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*Note to Editors: This is the 12th in a series of 12.*