

MD NEWS

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Blade-Free **LASIK** Procedure

Improves Patient Outcomes

Kirk R. Jeffreys, M.D., Eyecare Professionals

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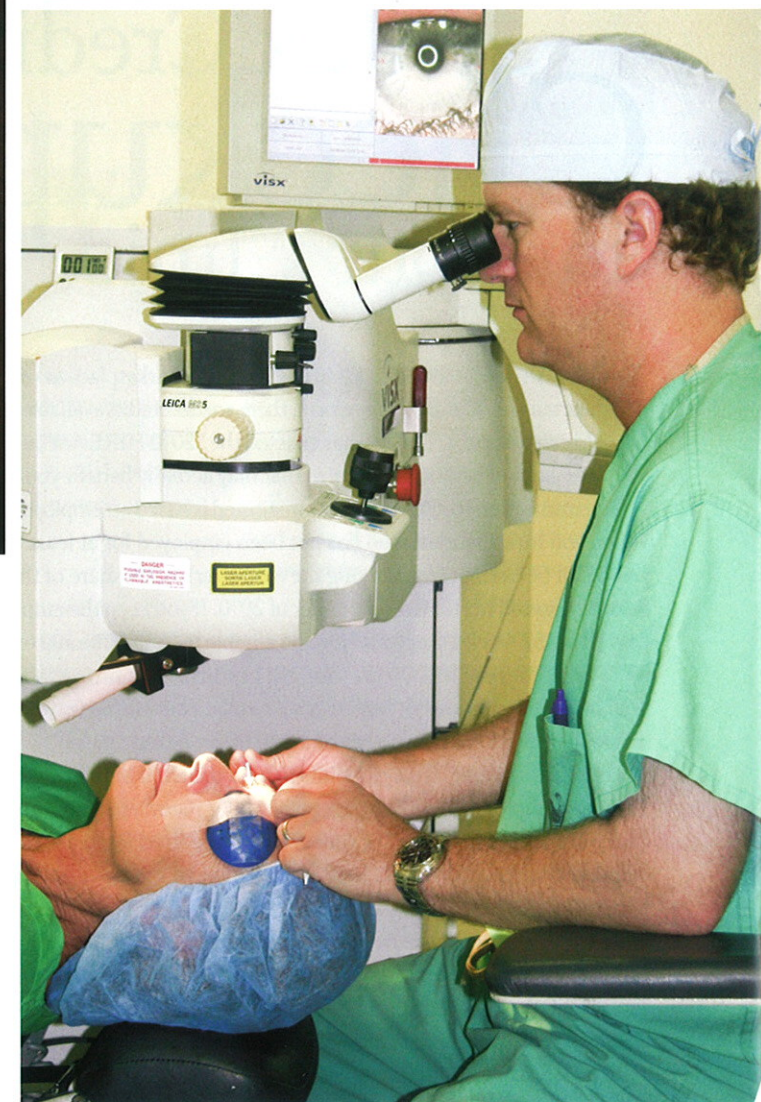
EYECARE PROFESSIONALS, LOCATED IN JACKSON, IS ONE OF THE FIRST PRACTICES IN CENTRAL MISSISSIPPI TO OFFER THE INTRALASE LASIK PROCEDURE, A BLADE-FREE ALTERNATIVE TO TRADITIONAL LASIK SURGERY.

IN RESPONSE TO growing patient interest, Kirk Jeffreys, M.D., ophthalmologist with Eyecare Professionals, now offers the IntraLase LASIK procedure — a blade-free alternative to traditional LASIK that many experts believe is a safer procedure capable of delivering more effective outcomes for patients.

“There are two steps in the LASIK procedure,” says Dr. Jeffreys. “The first step is creating a corneal flap, and the second step is reshaping the exposed corneal tissue, using an excimer laser to correct the patient’s refractive error.”

According to Dr. Jeffreys, traditionally the first step is completed manually using a handheld device with an oscillating metal blade, called a microkeratome. While LASIK is a very successful and safe procedure, the majority of complications with LASIK can be attributed to this microkeratome blade.

“IntraLase is the first 100% blade-free technology for performing the initial step of corneal flap creation,” says Dr. Jeffreys. “Surgeons now have the ability to tailor the corneal flap for each individual patient with fewer complications. Thinner corneal flaps can be created, which allows more patients to benefit from



vision-correction surgery. Patients with higher degrees of myopia and patients who originally weren’t considered candidates for LASIK surgery are now considered candidates for IntraLase LASIK.”

Dr. Jeffreys says in addition to decreasing complications in LASIK’s first step, IntraLase LASIK has also proven to provide superior visual outcomes to a larger population of prospective candidates — leading 81% of patients to prefer the IntraLase LASIK method when given a choice between procedures.

“IntraLase LASIK truly is a major advance in laser vision correction, and we are pleased to be one of the first practices in central Mississippi to offer this innovative and proven procedure,” says Dr. Jeffreys.

Cataract Surgery and Lens Implant Technology

In addition to the IntraLase LASIK procedure, Dr. Jeffreys is at the forefront of cataract surgery and lens implant technology — offering premium multifocal and toric lens implants to a growing number of patients seeking to enhance their quality of life.

“Significant advances have been made in implant technology,

CONVENIENT NEW LOCATION

FOR NEARLY A decade, Eyecare Professionals has been a leading provider of comprehensive ophthalmology services to patients throughout central Mississippi. Making the patient experience pleasant and convenient has been a guiding principle for Dr. Jeffreys since day one. To further fulfill this mission, Eyecare Professionals has expanded to a more spacious office location at 1501 Lakeland Dr., Suite 100, in Jackson. The newly renovated first floor location was the former site of Nick's Restaurant. It features eight exam rooms, numerous diagnostic testing areas and a stylish optical boutique stocked with the latest frame selections.

"We have increased our space to 5,000 square feet, doubling our size," says Dr. Jeffreys. "Our previous location on the second floor of this building served us well for many years, but as our practice has grown, so has the need for additional space. With this move, we are now able to care for patients in a new, state-of-the-art facility in the same convenient location on Lakeland Drive."

Eyecare Professionals' specialties include: custom and IntraLase LASIK; cataract surgery; premium implants (IOLs); macular degeneration, glaucoma and other diseases of the eye; routine eye exams; and full optical services.

well beyond the standard monofocal lens implant, and we're enabling our patients to take advantage of these innovations," says Dr. Jeffreys.

Standard lens implants for patients with cataracts are monofocal, designed with one focusing point to improve a patient's distance vision once the cataract is removed. With this option, it is not uncommon to need glasses to "fine tune" your distance vision, and patients will also need bifocals or reading glasses for "near" vision.

"Multifocal implants provide correction for both distance and near," says Dr. Jeffreys. "This lens provides many patients the opportunity to read, shop, dine and perform other tasks without the aid of glasses. Four out of five patients in a supporting FDA study reported never needing to wear glasses after surgery in both eyes. In terms of technology, this is the most advanced lens available."

Dr. Jeffreys added that toric implants provide correction for both a cataract and pre-existing astigmatism in one step.

"If you have astigmatism and are concerned primarily with improving distance vision, the toric implant eliminates the need to have two corrective procedures," he says. "It provides quality distance vision and decreased dependence on glasses as compared to a traditional monofocal lens implant."

Other Services Offered

As a comprehensive ophthalmology practice, Eyecare Professionals also provides treatment for all chronic eye conditions, including diabetes, glaucoma, macular degeneration and dry eye, as well as routine examinations and full optical services.

For more information, please call (601) 366-1085 or visit www.eyecare4ms.com.



MEET DR. JEFFREYS

BORN IN JACKSON, MS, Kirk Jeffreys, M.D., ophthalmologist, completed his undergraduate work at Mississippi State University and received his doctor of medicine degree from The University of Mississippi School of Medicine in Jackson.

Dr. Jeffreys completed an internal medicine internship and ophthalmology residency at The University of Mississippi Medical Center. After a three-year association with Tupelo Eye Clinic, he returned to Jackson in 2002 to form Eyecare Professionals, a comprehensive ophthalmology practice with a special interest in cataract and refractive surgery.

Dr. Jeffreys is board certified through the American Board of Ophthalmology and is a member of the American Medical Association, American Academy of Ophthalmology, American College of Surgeons, American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery, and has served as past president of the Jackson Ophthalmological Society.

He, along with his wife Tracey and their three children, reside in Jackson, where they are active members of Christ United Methodist Church.