

# Nothing like first hand experience

**Jasha Morarji, Senior Ophthalmic Technician at Eye Institute is in a unique position to recommend multi-focal IOLs now that she has had Alcon's AcrySof ReSTOR implants herself.**

Jasha, Dr Peter Ring's Cataract and Laser technician for the past 12 years, has worked closely with him in selecting the appropriate patients for this lens in order to achieve optimal visual results. They have jointly researched various multi-focal IOL's and have closely followed the results from overseas through the FDA and other sources.

Selecting the right type of lens for each cataract and clear lens implant patient is more important now than ever before with the arrival of multifocal and toric lenses over the last 5 years.

"Each patients needs to have all the choices put to them and I have made it a priority to perfect the patient selection process," says Jasha.

The AcrySof ReSTOR IOL provides pseudo accommodative vision using apodized diffractive and refractive technology to give patients a full range of quality vision - near, intermediate and distance. The benefit of this lens is that 80 percent of patients should not need to wear glasses after their surgery.



Having the first signs of presbyopia and early stages of a cataract Jasha decided she did not want to wear glasses. Today there is an expanding range of choices that is allowing both emerging and mature presbyopes to find a lens product or surgical procedure to suit their personal preferences. Having marketed Alcon's ReSTOR IOL for the past 3 year, Jasha had the utmost confidence that this lens would be suitable for herself.

*In the theatre during the procedure.*

Dr Ring was among the first surgeons to start using this lens and is one of the highest users of ReSTOR lenses in Australasia. It is the first time he had actually undertaken this procedure on one of his staff.

"In my 28 years as an eye surgeon I have done surgery on my parents and other eye surgeons and many medical practitioners but no staff members. I have known Jasha since 1979 so this was a milestone for me. Patient selection is critical and Jasha met the criteria and understands how it works, so she was the ideal candidate. Our results with the ReSTOR lens have been highly successful due to Jasha perfecting the selection of candidates so she'll now be able to use her personal experience to explain the procedure and allay any fears a patient might have," he said.

Never having undergone eye surgery, Jasha was very apprehensive but once the 12 minute procedure had taken place she said it had been a breeze.

"I had the ReSTOR lens, surgeon Dr Peter Ring and his highly experienced theatre team including charge nurse Cecilia Chin and anaesthetist Dr Rob Fry. Both have been with Peter since Eye Institute opened 12 years ago. I know I had the best," she said.

"From the large numbers of cases we have done and the knowledge gained from overseas conferences I have been very confident about marketing and discussing this lens with our patients. Now that I have had the procedure, I will be able to help them further. It's been a great experience and I'm really relieved and happy to know that I'll not have to wear glasses. I can see both 20/20 and N5."

Jasha had the two ReSTOR implants done one week apart.

The FDA has recently granted approval of the AcrySof ReSTOR apodized diffractive aspheric IOL for the visual correction of aphakia following cataract surgery in adult patients, with or without presbyopia. The company said it will begin a phased commercial launch of this new lens by mid-year.



*Jasha with the team after the procedure. From left: Dr Peter Ring, anaesthetist Dr Rob Fry, charge nurse Cecilia Chin and senior nurse Ruth Stevenson.*