

Refractive Surgery Council Reports Strong Start To 2021; Nearly 30% Rise in LVC Procedures Year over Year

More than 220,000 LASIK, SMILE, and PRK Procedures Performed in Q1

DALLAS, TX, UNITED STATES, April 28, 2021 /EINPresswire.com/ -- The [Refractive Surgery Council](#) (RSC), which helps consumers make informed choices about their vision correction options, reported a strong start to 2021 with a nearly 30 percent rise in laser vision correction (LVC) procedures year over year. More than 220,000 [LASIK](#), SMILE, and PRK procedures have been performed so far this year reflecting demand fueled by a renewed consumer focus on self-care and safety.

"The continued surge in procedure volume confirms what we have been hearing from refractive surgeons across the country. With the pandemic bringing eye health into focus, it's clear consumers are electing to prioritize the investment in their vision," said RSC Chairman Jim Wachtman.

Pandemic-related vision issues included pervasive complaints of foggy glasses while wearing face masks, stern public health warnings to not touch one's face or eyes to prevent COVID-19 transmission, and a high prevalence of digital eye strain and dry eye from remote working and learning.

"Last year's stay-at-home orders likely gave people more time to think about and go online to research their vision correction, which affects more than 190 million Americans," said Wachtman. "Across our own patient education channels, we saw a significant increase – more than 20 percent – of users deeply exploring all facets of laser vision correction, including options, candidacy, finding the right surgeon, and how to pay for the procedure."

RSC establishes procedure volume based upon utilization of technologies from the industry's leading manufacturers, providing valuable and unique data reporting for the sector.

"For more than thirty years, laser vision correction has been shown to be a safe, effective option for people seeking treatment for nearsightedness, farsightedness, and astigmatism. Today there are many procedures to meet a wide range of lifestyle and vision needs for those who are good candidates and prefer not to wear glasses and contacts to see," said Gregory D. Parkhurst, M.D. of Parkhurst NuVision. "Patients have had time to reconsider priorities during the pandemic and

investing in themselves is at the top of the list.”

About the Refractive Surgery Council

Formed in 2010, the Refractive Surgery Council is a leading voice in the field of refractive surgery. Its members are comprised of industry representatives from Alcon, Johnson & Johnson Vision Surgical, Zeiss, and Ziemer, as well as medical organizations, including the American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery (ASCRS), the American-European Congress of Ophthalmic Surgery (AECOS), the International Society for Refractive Surgery (ISRS) and the Refractive Surgery Alliance Society (RSA). Through its educational programs, RSC helps people make informed choices about laser vision correction. For more information about RSC, go to <https://americanrefrativesurgerycouncil.org/>.

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