

# Clear Sight

Double vision bothers this patient, but she finds a satisfying solution with monovision intraocular lens implant surgery.

Shushanah Powell is a dynamic woman. Her energy and enthusiasm are reflected in her many accomplishments. She is a nurse, a registered artistic figure skating coach, and has raised three sons with her husband of 30 years. She is the founder and director of a non-profit, Village Landing, Inc., which is dedicated to changing how kids spend their free time. Most recently, she enrolled as a web design student at Daytona State College.



Q. JOCELYN GE, MD, PHD

When preparing to begin her courses a few weeks before the start of the semester, she unexpectedly discovered reading was a struggle: "I was getting double vision in one eye, and I realized there was no way I was going to be able to get through my course with this kind of vision."

During her research into the credentials and recommendations of local eye doctors, Shushanah discovered that one doctor in particular was consistently praised for her professional work. "I was very impressed about what I learned about Dr. Ge, and then I also said a prayer before making an appointment to see her."

Q. Jocelyn Ge, MD, PhD, a board-certified ophthalmologist, is the medical director of Premier Eye Clinic in Port Orange, a full-service, patient-oriented facility that combines



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compassionate and personalized care with advanced technology.

## Correct diagnosis and treatment

"When she examined my eyes on the first visit," says Shushanah, "the news that I had cataracts came as a complete surprise because I've had good success with monovision contacts for ten years with the aid of glasses."

"I think the biggest surprise to me is that you can lose your vision and not even be aware of it."

Dr. Ge recommended cataract surgery for Shushanah. However, before having cataracts removed, patients need to choose what type of eyesight they want following surgery. Dr. Ge spends a lot of time with her cataract patients, discussing their needs and their post-cataract goals. "There are many intraocular lens [IOL] options and techniques to choose from," she notes, "and my goal is to educate our patients so that they can make their own best choices."

No one lens is perfect for every patient. With today's improved predictability of cataract surgery, it's usually possible to reduce patients' dependence on eyeglasses for either distance vision or near vision, and sometimes for both.

"Although many patients will never need glasses for any activity," says Dr. Ge, "results vary. That is why I really listen to my patients and spend enough time with each one to learn about his or her lifestyle so we can determine what is going to work best for that patient before selecting the right lens implants."

"Shushanah is a self-employed, very active lady. After an examination and reviewing her health history, I felt she was a good candidate for monovision intraocular lens implants because she has been successfully using monovision with contact lenses."

"When she first came to me, she was actually wearing three different contact lenses. She was wearing one in the right eye for distance and one in the left eye for near sight. She had to change to an additional set of contact lenses when she worked on the computer. It is rather inconvenient and unnecessary to have to switch between all these contact lenses."

"I explained to Shushanah that we would calculate the implants so that after the surgery she would be able to see far in the right eye and see near in the left eye without the aid of glasses."

"After doing some research on the surgery, I was comfortable that the intraocular lens implant that Dr. Ge suggested



Shushanah Powell

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was right for me," confirms Shushanah. "However, discovering that I needed surgery was a huge surprise and very poor timing."

"When Dr. Ge asked if I was ready to have my natural lenses replaced and reduce my dependence on all these contacts and glasses, I said yes, but that I was starting classes in two weeks!"

"In Shushanah's case, I recommended surgery that replaces her flawed natural lens that had developed a cataract with a precision-engineered lens implant," explains Dr. Ge.

Patients can have both eyes corrected for distance vision, in which case they will require glasses for near vision, or they may choose to have their eyes corrected for close-up vision, in which case they will require glasses for distance. Some patients may also choose monovision, a technique where the dominant eye is focused for distance vision and the non-dominant eye is focused for near-to-intermediate vision. Monovision can help patients be as independent from glasses as possible.

"Having a lens implant means that contacts are no longer necessary. The use of glasses is either eliminated or greatly reduced, which is why such procedures have grown in popularity," confirms Dr. Ge.

## Brand-new world

"I had surgery at eleven a.m. on a Monday morning and by five thirty p.m. that night, I was in class without a patch on my eye, able to see perfectly out of that eye! And the next week, I had the second eye done with the exact same results!" exclaims Shushanah.

"There is just no way to describe the change. You can see the details in

wallpaper; you can see your wrist watch perfectly," she says, adding that the quality of her vision after surgery may be closer to what it was 15 or 20 years earlier. "It's like coming into a brand-new world."

"The surgery is so well done; everything is perfectly in control and professionally handled. I had complete peace during the entire procedure. It was a wonderful experience and I would definitely recommend it."

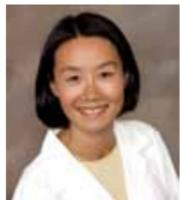
Dr. Ge is pleased with the results of the surgeries for Shushanah. "She did very well and is enjoying excellent results from the surgeries. It's important for people to understand that cataract surgery is a refractive procedure, meaning that, in most cases, the patient can at least reduce dependence on glasses, if not get rid of glasses altogether."

Shushanah concludes, "I would give Dr. Ge's staff a score of ten out of ten! I'm a registered nurse and I didn't find anything to be dissatisfied about. I was so impressed with how professional and friendly everyone was – I'd recommend Dr. Ge and her office to anyone!"

FHCN—Elizabeth A. Leib

## Committed to YOUR Vision

Dr. Ge and the staff of Premier Eye Clinic look forward to meeting readers of *Volusia Health Care News*. The office is located at **3641 South Clyde Morris Blvd., Suite 500**, in Port Orange, phone **(386) 788-6198**.



Q. Jocelyn Ge, MD, PhD, received her medical degree from the Vanderbilt University School of Medicine and her PhD from the University of California. She completed her internship at the University of Tennessee Medical Center and her ophthalmology residency at the Tulane University Hospital and Clinics in New Orleans. In 2005, Dr. Ge was one of the ten ophthalmologists in the US who received the prestigious American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery (ASCRS) Foundation research grant. She is active in research and has presented

her results at major national conferences, including the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO), ASCRS, and the American Academy of Ophthalmology. She is certified by the American Board of Ophthalmology.

Visit Premier Eye Clinic on the web at [www.PremierEyeClinic.com](http://www.PremierEyeClinic.com).