

## REFRACTIVE SURGERY

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### Vision stable with PRK out to 14 years, study finds

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A majority of patients followed to 14 years after [PRK](#) were satisfied with their refractive correction and maintained vision at least equal to preoperative values, according to a study.

In the prospective study, 31 patients were examined from an original cohort of 50 patients who underwent PRK for low myopia of less than -6 D (range -1.5 D to -5.75 D) or high myopia of -6 D or higher (range -5.75 D to -13 D).

After 14 years, manifest refraction spherical equivalent was -0.17 D in the low myopia group and -0.67 D in the high myopia group. Uncorrected visual acuity was -0.06 logMAR in the low myopia group and -0.11 logMAR in the high myopia group. Best corrected visual acuity was 0.00 logMAR in the low myopia group and -0.03 in the high myopia group.

Postoperative results stabilized at 6 months after surgery. At 3 months, 6 months and 14 years, there was no correlation between preoperative and postoperative refraction, and "these data confirm stabilization of the postoperative refraction within 6 months after PRK," the study authors said.

Haze also stabilized at 6 months. Immediately after surgery and out to 6 months, haze increased in both groups, then declined until 1 year, with no change at year 14.

"At the end of follow-up, 30 (97%) eyes of the low myopia group and 17 (94%) of the high myopia group had clear corneas," the authors said.

There were no late complications noted in the study.

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