# **Enhancing Vision and Stability** for Astigmatic Patients

enneth Boxer, OD, believes in exploring new contact lenses as they are introduced. "We are always look-

ing for the next lens that could provide our patients with the comfort and vision they desire. Ignoring new product developments would be unwise," he states.

The three optometrists in his Brookhaven, Georgia, practice have embraced the innovative design of Bausch + Lomb INFUSE® daily contact lenses. "We had the sphere, and patients were enthusiastic," Dr. Boxer explains. "As long as

Bausch + Lomb could develop a toric design that would ensure stable vision and maintain comfort, I was optimistic." His expectations were met with the introduction of the

INFUSE® for Astigmatism lens in the summer of 2024. "I've been very happy. I'm not surprised; I expected it to perform well."

One of the standout features of the INFUSE

for Astigmatism lenses is their stability. "While contact lens manufacturers have been improving stability for some time, I'm particularly impressed by this lens. I haven't experienced a single lens rotating more than a few degrees."

INFUSE for Astigmatism lenses are engineered with ProBalance Technology™ and the proprietary OpticAlign® design, minimizing contact lens dryness while providing astigmatic patients with clear, stable vision.

## Large market

The introduction of the INFUSE for Astigmatism lenses has expanded the candidate pool for daily disposable lenses. "Anyone with 3.00D to 3.25D of astigmatism now has options for a one-day lens," Dr. Boxer says. "Today, many patients prefer daily disposables, and we can now accommodate that preference."

This shift has surprised many patients who were previously told their options were limited. "I've even told them, 'There's no suitable lens for you,' but with time and technology, it's now viable," he notes.

Astigmatism affects a significant por-

tion of the population—24% of a study population had at least 0.75D of astigmatism in both eyes, while another 23% had it in just one eye.<sup>1</sup> This represents a substantial percentage of a typical practice's patient population.

Having a lens available in sphere and toric designs also offers a solution for those with varying prescriptions. "Having a toric lens in one eye and a sphere in the other used to

be a real challenge," he explains. "We would fit one eye with a comfortable lens, but then have to inform patients that they might experience lens awareness or need a

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— Dr. Kenneth Boxer

night and costs the same as or less than the older design lenses you currently use." Patients also like to hear that they are getting access to more products developed more recently. "I tell patients that we have used this lens extensively and that all three doctors in our practice are very satisfied with it."

Ultimately, it's what the doctor communicates in the exam room that helps patients say yes to trying a different lens. Yet Dr. Boxer also relies on his contact lens representatives and Account Managers from ABB Optical Group to assist his staff with product introductions. "I had the representative come in, and she's been excellent at introducing new products." It is helpful to ensure that staff members can also reinforce the benefits of the lens to patients.

## Limiting glare and halos

Dr. Boxer emphasizes the importance of patient comfort and satisfaction. "The complaints I hear from patients with astigmatism often revolve around comfort, fluctuating vision due to lens

rotation and glare and halos at night," he explains. "The INFUSE for Astigmatism lenses effectively address these common issues. If lenses can be comfortable, reduce glare, remain stable and help reduce some of those spherical aberrations, patients are generally very satisfied."

Indeed, he considers it his go-to option because it performs well. "In practices today, there is only so much space for fit sets. If we weren't satisfied with the lens, we would have requested that it be removed." However, it has consistently delivered in terms of stability, vision and comfort. Plus, as the only silicone hydrogel daily disposable toric lens with -2.25D and -2.75D cylinders available in a fit set, it has allowed him to provide more options to his astigmatic patient base. PA

lens with a different replacement schedule in the other eye. That was a difficult conversation." With INFUSE for Astigmatism, it's not a conversation he needs to have.

He tells patients, "We are going to try you in a lens that patients report is comfortable, minimizes halos and glare at

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23% had astigmatism in just one eye

### References

1. Young G et al. Prevalence of Astigmatism in relation to soft contact lens fitting. Eye & Contact Lens, 2011; 37(1): 20-25.

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