

DUAL-FOCUS CONTACT LENS SLOWS MYOPIA PROGRESSION IN CHILDREN BY MORE THAN 50%

A dual focus one-day soft contact lens, from CooperVision (MiSight, not approved for myopia control in the United States), decreased myopia progression in children 59%, as measured by mean cycloplegic spherical equivalent, and 52%, as measured by mean axial elongation of the eye, vs. a single vision one-day contact lens worn by children in the control group of a prospective, multi-center, double-masked, randomized three-year study.

The study, presented at the British Contact Lens Association Clinical conference in Liverpool, England, June 9 to June 11, was

comprised of 144 myopic children, ages 8 to 12 from Singapore, Canada, England and Portugal.

"The dual-focus lens is the first and only product recognized by a major Health Agency (CEE) as a myopia control device, and it tells the importance of the clinical results reported here," says Langis Michaud, O.D., M.Sc., F.A.A.O, F.S.L.S., a myopia control expert, professor and chief of the contact lens department at École d'optométrie de Université de Montréal. "We have now multiple evidences that this lens, orthokeratology and other optical devices are able to significantly slow myopia and axial length progressions.

In my opinion, every myopic child at risk should be offered a myopia control strategy. Ignoring what science tells us should be certainly considered malpractice but, most importantly, infringes any code of ethics (*do not harm*) I know."

The lens did not negatively affect the wearer's daily activities vs. the control group, and all subjects reported greater satisfaction with contact lenses vs. spectacles, reports the study. Also, most parents said they were "extremely at ease" with their children wearing contact lenses after one month of wear and on, and that their children could "mostly" manage their lens wear alone. ■