Increasingly, many are turning to laser vision correction procedures to fix their eye refractive errors to help them regain clear vision without wearing glasses or contact lenses. Particularly, surface-based procedures such as Trans-epithelial PhotoRefractive Keratectomy (TransPRK) have been gaining popularity as these procedures are safe and do not cut the eye.

Dr. Tony Ho, the eye doctor at Clearvision Eye Clinic & LASIK Centre who specialises in the TransPRK procedure, says: “My patients opt for a surface-based procedure like TransPRK because they feel more comfortable knowing that no surgical instruments are going to be touching or cutting their cornea.”

How does TransPRK work?
The TransPRK procedure is done under numbing eye drops. The Schwind Amaris 1050RS excimer laser - equipped with SmartSurface and cornea Wavefront technology - is then used to reshape the curvature of the cornea. The only thing the patient is required to do is focus on a green blinking light ahead of them for 20 to 40 seconds per eye, depending on the eye degree to be corrected, and the procedure will be completed.

What vision issues can TransPRK correct?
TransPRK can safely correct refractive errors such as myopia (short-sightedness), far-sightedness, presbyopia (lao hua) and astigmatism (san guang). Because no corneal flap is cut in the eye during TransPRK, there are no scary vision black-outs during surgery. It eliminates the risk of corneal flap-related complications. The risk of procedure-induced dry eye is minimal.

Is TransPRK suitable for everyone?
While most people are suitable candidates for TransPRK, there are certain medical criteria to meet. In general, you must not have any eye diseases. The thickness of your cornea should also not be too thin.

I had cataract surgery done, can I still do TransPRK to see better without glasses?
Yes you can have TransPRK done even if you have had cataract surgery before. It is common after cataract surgery to still have residual refractive errors that require you to wear glasses or contact lenses. You can consider TransPRK to correct this.

To learn more about TransPRK and laser vision correction procedures from Dr Tony Ho, visit www.clearvision.com.sg/talk to register for Clearvision’s Beyond LASIK Talk at Marriott Tang Plaza Hotel happening on September 17.