Dr. Terveen: Research Awards & Innovation for Sioux Falls Patients

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Several of the ophthalmologists practicing at Vance Thompson Vision in Sioux Falls are actively involved in clinical research, and the practice's trial history predates much of the vision correction technology now in routine use. Founder Vance Thompson, MD, served as medical monitor of the first FDA-approved ophthalmic excimer laser in the United States and has been a principal investigator in more than 100 FDA-monitored clinical trials. John Berdahl, MD, ranks among the top 2% of ophthalmology researchers worldwide. Daniel Terveen, MD, a board-certified ophthalmologist at the practice, contributes to that research culture primarily through academic and program-building work, including book chapters on complicated cataract surgery and an appointment as associate clinical professor of ophthalmology at Sanford USD School of Medicine.

An FDA-monitored trial in eye care is a formal study conducted under federal oversight to evaluate a lens, device, laser platform, or medication before it becomes generally available. Participating surgeons enroll patients under a defined protocol, follow standardized measurement and documentation requirements, and report outcomes that regulators review as part of the approval pathway. The work is slower and more exacting than routine surgical practice, and it is one of the few settings in which a surgeon's results are examined against a national data set rather than against local expectation alone.

Research participation also changes what a practice has on hand. Investigator sites work with lens designs, diagnostic instruments, and laser platforms during the evaluation period, which means the surgeons and technical staff accumulate experience with a technology well before it enters wide circulation. When a device is subsequently approved, that experience carries over: the measurement conventions, the candidacy criteria, and the failure modes are already familiar. For patients in Sioux Falls and the surrounding communities, the practical effect is a practice that tends to adopt approved technology early and to understand its limits as clearly as its advantages.

The influence of trial work on day-to-day outcomes is less visible but more consistent. Protocol-driven research imposes habits that do not switch off after a study closes, including rigorous pre-operative measurement, standardized follow-up intervals, and systematic tracking of refractive results rather than impressionistic recall. Surgeons who have collected data under federal scrutiny generally apply the same discipline to routine cataract and refractive cases, which supports better lens selection and more accurate expectation-setting during consultations.

Dr. Terveen's background reflects that combination of academic rigor and procedural innovation. He serves as councilor for South Dakota to the American Academy of Ophthalmology, representing the state within the specialty's national governing body. During training, he received the Deans' Award as the top student in his medical school class and was named Arbisser "Top Gun" Resident at the University of Iowa. He went on to found the immediately sequential bilateral cataract surgery program at the Iowa City VA, an operational model that allows appropriately selected patients to have both eyes treated in a single surgical session rather than across two separate procedures and recovery periods. His published book chapters address complicated cataract surgery, the category of cases in which prior trauma, prior refractive procedures, or unusual anatomy make standard technique insufficient.

"Research work changes how a surgeon thinks about measurement," said Daniel Terveen, MD, board-certified ophthalmologist, Vance Thompson Vision. "In a trial, every refractive outcome is documented and compared against a defined standard, so there is no room for approximation. That discipline follows the surgeon into the operating room on ordinary cases, and it is a significant part of why a research-active practice can offer patients a clearer picture of what a given lens or procedure is likely to accomplish for their particular eye."

Vance Thompson Vision provides LASIK, PRK, ICL, advanced cataract surgery, cornea care, and glaucoma treatment from its Sioux Falls location at 3101 W 57th St, serving patients from Sioux Falls, Brookings, Mitchell, Watertown, and Yankton. The practice was founded on the premise that surgeons who help

evaluate new technology are better positioned to counsel patients about it. Patients evaluating cataract surgery or vision correction options can review the practice profile and current information for Vance Thompson Vision in Sioux Falls or find driving directions to the Sioux Falls office before scheduling a consultation.

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For more information about Vance Thompson Vision - Sioux Falls, contact the company here:Vance Thompson Vision - Sioux FallsVance Thompson Vision(605) 361-3937info@vancethompsonvision.com3101 W 57th St, Sioux Falls, SD 57108

Vance Thompson Vision - Sioux Falls

Vance Thompson Vision are world leaders in quality vision correction and patient care in ophthalmology. We specialize in vision surgery and treatment with a specific focus on LASIK, refractive cataract surgery, glaucoma, cornea care, and oculoplastics.

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