

Bioptic Lenses Expand Global Traveler's World

On an overcast August day, Renee Bove'-Johnson stands looking out the window of the Casey Eye Institute's waterfront location, wearing what looks like an instant camera perched atop her eyeglasses. With John Boyer, O.D., at her side, she correctly reads out the numbers on a distant billboard.



"This is so cool," exclaims the 54-year woman from Milwaukie, Ore., as she gives Dr. Boyer a tearful hug. "Today is a life-changing day for me!"

Until her appointment that day at Casey's Evelyn L. Jones Low Vision Rehabilitation Center, reading signs was nearly impossible for Renee, who has Stargardt's disease, a form of macular degeneration. While magnifiers help her see close-up, flight monitors, menu boards – even faces – were nothing but a blur. These

limitations were particularly challenging for Renee, who travels around the world helping children who also have eye problems.

During her visit, Dr. Boyer, clinical director of the Low Vision Rehabilitation Center, fitted Renee with a miniature telescope called bioptic lenses. The device, which is attached to the top of her eyeglasses, enables her to easily switch her sight from near vision to magnified vision through the telescope. For Renee, the results were immediate and dramatic. Reading the eye chart on the opposite wall, Renee was thrilled to achieve 20/25 vision.

"Renee is an excellent role model for people with vision problems," says Dr. Boyer. "She has maintained a positive attitude and is willing to change the way she approaches the things she wants to do."

"The bioptic telescopic glasses are a terrific tool for someone motivated like Renee as they extend the range of human vision beyond what regular glasses could ever do,"

About InSight

InSight is mailed twice a year at no charge to friends and patients of the Macular Degeneration Center at Casey Eye Institute/OHSU. If you would like to be added or removed from the mailing list, please call 503-494-3537 or email us at kahnj@ohsu.edu You can also visit us online at www.caseyamd.com