

ophthalmology

change that really lasts a lifetime. I wouldn't want to do it when things are variable," says Wallerstein.

In addition, although most women only have to put antibiotic drops in their eyes post laser surgery, in the rare case something happens and the woman has to take stronger medication, it could harm the baby.

Pregnancy also often causes dry eyes in women — so much so that contact lenses are often too uncomfortable to wear. That could pose additional difficulties for women recovering from laser vision correction, leading to longer, more troublesome recovery periods.

"We wouldn't want to put them in that situation," says Wallerstein.

"So we don't actually perform the procedure during the time that someone is pregnant, and not until a month or two after the delivery to make sure the vision is stabilized."

The good news for moms who are ready to undergo laser vision correction is it's safer today than ever before.

Newer imaging technology can now determine the health of the cornea and better advise doctors

on who is really a good candidate for the surgery.

In addition, the lasers now have a higher level of precision.

"The laser is now able to treat based on those specifics of your eye," says Wallerstein. "It has very much tailored to what your vision is. This is led to an increase in accuracy and precision of the surgery."

Although Wallerstein says laser eye surgery cannot prevent or rectify any kind of eye disease, it can restore eyesight to 20/20 vision.

Fenster's eyesight has been restored to 20/20 vision. Yet more than that, the procedure has helped her envision a simpler future.

"It's made my life easier," she says. "I don't have to go to the eye doctor. I can see when I'm driving. I don't have to worry about losing my glasses. We're all busy people and this is one less thing to worry about."

Right: Advancements in laser eye correction technology is allowing doctors to tailor treatments to the specifics of patients' eyes.

