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## The myopia epidemic: What can we do?

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The incidence of myopia has increased by staggering amounts over the past 50 years. As practitioners see more pediatric cases of myopia, we have to think about the future risks these patients may experience as high myopes. This lecture will discuss the incidence of myopia in different areas of the world, how myopia is being identified in younger children, and how to slow the progression of myopia worldwide. With some areas in Asia showing over 90% myopia in patients of 18 years and above, we must address this alarming trend. We have 3 treatments currently at our disposal: Orthokeratology, soft multifocal contact lenses, and atropinization. The benefits and risks of all 3 modalities will be discussed, citing multiple studies.

## Biography

Katherine Schuetz has completed her Doctorate from the Indiana University School of Optometry in 2000. She has practiced Family Optometry for the past 16 years, and has specialized in Pediatrics, Orthokeratology and Contact Lenses. She and her partner Dr. Ciano provide vision screenings for over 1200 elementary school students every year, and she also volunteers her time doing exams at a free local health clinic for low-income patients.

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