



For Immediate Release  
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Contact: Ashley Jefferson  
Phone: 215.276.6158

### Dangerous Cosmetic Contact Lenses: A Potential Halloween Horror

Philadelphia, Pa. –The Eye Institute (TEI) of Salus University is urging consumers to steer clear of colored and decorative contact lenses – often used for Halloween to accent costumes.

The federal government first sounded the alarm in [a news release](#) warning customers that the colorful knock off lenses – typically purchased from novelty stores, street vendors and online – can cause serious vision problems.

According to [U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement \(ICE\)](#), the lenses are sold without an examination from a licensed eye doctor and are dispensed without a prescription. The lenses are also linked to numerous optical conditions ranging from infections to conjunctivitis and impaired vision.

Contact lens specialist at The Eye Institute, Dr. Kriti Bhagat, strongly warns, "Never buy contact lenses from a source that does not require a prescription from a doctor."

TEI urges consumer to buy only contact lenses, which are regulated by the FDA, from a licensed eye care professional (including retailers) who requires a prescription.

"Wearing lenses that don't require a prescription can put your eye health at major risk, and can even lead to irreversible sight loss," Dr. Bhagat adds. "Don't put your lifelong sight at risk for one night."

#### **About Salus University**

Salus University, founded as the Pennsylvania College of Optometry in 1919, today is a diversified, globally recognized professional academic center of learning that offers a wide range of degree programs in the professions of Optometry, Audiology, Physician Assistant, Public Health, Blindness and Low Vision Studies, Biomedicine, Occupational Therapy and Speech-Language Pathology. Salus operates four clinical facilities in the Philadelphia area that provide highly specialized vision, hearing and balance, and speech-language pathology services. The University has more than 1,200 students, including PhD candidates, and more than 11,300 alumni worldwide. For more information, please visit [www.salus.edu](http://www.salus.edu).