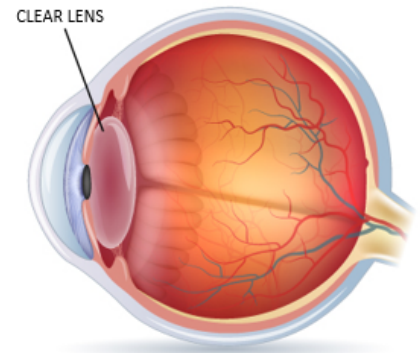


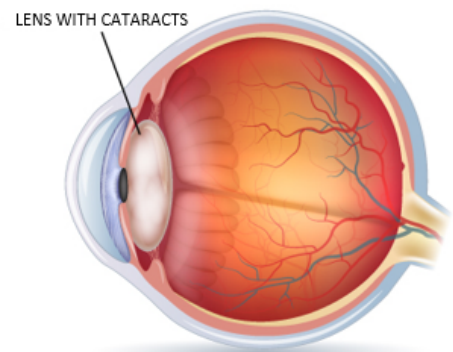
What is a Cataract?

A cataract is a condition where the lens of the eye becomes cloudy and hard. Cataracts can develop from normal aging, eye injury, various medical conditions, or by taking certain medications such as steroids. If the cataract impairs vision to the point that it interferes with your daily life, the cataract may need to be removed.



Signs and Symptoms of a Cataract

- Blurry vision
- Seeing double or ghost images
- Sensitive to light (especially oncoming headlights)
- Having trouble seeing well at night
- Needing more light when reading
- Seeing bright colors as faded or yellow



Treatment Options

Surgery is the only way to remove a cataract. You can postpone surgery or elect not to have a cataract operation. However, without surgery, vision loss due to the cataract will usually continue to worsen. Corrective lenses, eyeglasses, or contact lenses will not improve vision or reverse the worsening of the cataract.

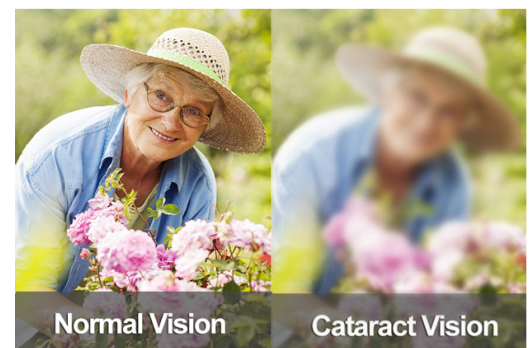
The goal of cataract surgery is to correct the decreased vision that is caused by the cataract. During the surgery, the ophthalmologist (eye surgeon) removes the cataract and places an artificial lens called an intraocular lens ("IOL") in the eye. Cataract surgery will not correct other causes of decreased vision, such as: glaucoma, optic nerve or retinal problems, diabetes, age-related macular degeneration, or dry eye.

Custom Plans For Correcting Astigmatism

If you elect to have your astigmatism evaluated, a highly advanced computer will be used to generate a corneal topography map of the surface of your eye. This map provides detailed information about the shape of our cornea that your doctor may use to reduce your dependency on glasses. Surgical keratometers are used in the operating room, in conjunction with corneal topography, to assist your doctor in determining the most precise correction of astigmatism and further reducing the need for glasses.

Recommendations to slow progression

- ✓ Wear UV protective sunglasses
- ✓ Eat a healthy well balanced diet
- ✓ Quit Smoking
- ✓ Reduce alcohol consumption
- ✓ Manage other health problems such as diabetes or high blood pressure



FAQ

What type of intraocular lenses are available?

Standard Lenses

- Standard IOLs usually provide either near or distance vision. These single focus standard lenses are called monofocal IOLs.

Lifestyle Lenses (high technology lenses)

- Some IOLs are designed to provide an enhanced range of near, intermediate, and distance vision. These lenses are known as presbyopic or multifocal lenses.

Astigmatism Reduction

- IOLs that treat astigmatism are called toric IOLs. This option is designed to reduce the blurring effects of astigmatism. Patients who choose astigmatism reduction will enjoy sharper vision as a result of state-of-the-art intraocular lenses and/or surgical astigmatism reduction techniques specially designed to minimize astigmatism. Your surgeon will consider your visual goals to determine whether your vision should be focused to see best up close, far away, or a blend of the two (monovision).



Will I need glasses or contact lenses after surgery?

After cataract surgery, it may take some time to appreciate the maximum benefits of the lens, and after the eye heals, its visual power may be different from what was predicted by preoperative testing. However, in order to obtain the best possible vision, most patients still need to wear glasses or contact lenses after cataract surgery for either near and/or distance vision, for certain activities, or in low light. This is true even if you consent to the implantation of a high technology lifestyle lens. Patients who are highly nearsighted or highly farsighted have the greatest risk of differences between planned and actual outcomes. It is also difficult to obtain precise IOL measurements in patients, who have had LASIK, radial keratotomy, or other refractive surgeries. Furthermore, since only one eye is operated on at a time, you may experience a feeling of imbalance between your two eyes, which may require correction. Finally, there is no guarantee that cataract surgery will improve your vision, even with glasses or contact lenses.