#### What will my insurance cover?

Your insurance will fully cover **traditional** cataract surgery.

Additional procedures designed solely to eliminate the need for glasses (ATCS) are considered elective (not medically necessary). Elective procedures are typically not covered by insurance.

### How much do ATCS procedures cost?

You and your surgeon will choose the option best suited for you.

### Distance-only correction: \$1,400 or \$2,000 per eye

- Best option for quality distance correction. Most people can drive or watch TV afterwards without glasses.
- Corrects astigmatism either with laser treatment or with toric lens implant.
- Additional advanced eye measurements and planning are required.
- Cost is based on the amount of astigmatism correction needed.

# Distance- and near-vision correction: \$2,550 per eye

- Best option to correct BOTH near and far vision. Most patients can drive and read without glasses afterwards.
- Uses trifocal and extended depth-of-focus (EDOF) lens implant to correct both vision types.
- Corrects astigmatism with laser treatment or toric lens implant.
- Additional advanced eye measurements and planning are required.



# Cataract Surgery Questions & Answers



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My doctor told me I have a cataract.

#### What do I do next?

Relax. Cataracts are a normal part of aging. They can also be caused by injury to the eye, a history of inflammation, or a previous operation.

Cataract surgery is among the safest and most common procedures performed today.

Most patients who have had cataract surgery report significant improvement in their quality of life. Their vision improves, recovery time is short and they have limited discomfort or inconvenience.

Your provider will recommend a cataract surgeon who will examine your eyes, evaluate the need for surgery, and discuss the details with you and your family.

# What exactly is a cataract?

A cataract is simply a darkening or clouding of the eye's internal lens. It is caused by a degenerative process. This is what blurs your vision. It is not a film which grows over the eye. Because this clouding or hazing occurs over many years, we generally wait until the cataract begins to significantly impact your vision. When normal activities like reading or driving become difficult, we recommend surgery.

Cataract

Cloudy Lens



Healthy eye



# How is standard cataract surgery performed?

Cataract surgery is a lens replacement surgery. During traditional cataract surgery, we remove the dark or cloudy lens and replace it with a clear lens implant. (This is often called an "IOL.")

It is same-day (outpatient) surgery. The surgery itself typically takes about 15 minutes, but your appointment time will be longer than that. You will be awake, but you will receive medication to help you stay relaxed and comfortable.

Your surgeon will numb the eye so that you don't feel any discomfort. Many people only vaguely remember the actual procedure. Some recall only lights and feeling moisture on the eye.

### How soon will I be able to see better?

Full healing takes a few weeks. Most people can see better and resume their normal activities the very next day. You will need to use eye drops for about a month after your surgery.

# Will I need glasses after cataract surgery?

The purpose of cataract surgery is to improve the overall quality of your vision. **It is not intended to eliminate the need for glasses.** Most people will still need glasses for certain tasks.

If you are interested in minimizing or eliminating the need for glasses, ask your surgeon about Advanced-Technology Cataract Surgery.

## What is Advanced-Technology Cataract Surgery (ATCS)?

During ATCS, a surgeon may use additional techniques or tools to minimize the need for glasses. Sometimes, ATCS even eliminates the need for glasses altogether.

The advanced technology includes surgical techniques, lasers, and/or specialty corrective lens implants. ATCS can be done either at the time of your cataract surgery or soon afterwards.

ATCS may be able to correct or treat

- Astigmatism
- Distance vision only
- Distance and near vision

Only your surgeon can determine if you are a candidate and which techniques are appropriate for your goals and your eyes.