EXCELLENCE IN CATARACT SURGERY

Your guide to CATARACT SURGERY
Cataracts are not a disease but a progressive condition that causes the eye’s natural lens to become cloudy. Cataracts may be white or take on color, such as yellow or brown. As cataracts become increasingly opaque and dense, the retina receives less and less light, and the light that does reach the retina becomes increasingly blurred. This causes gradual impairment of vision. If left untreated, cataracts can cause unnecessary blindness.

Common cataract symptoms include blurred vision, halos around light, glare, double vision (particularly at night) reading and sewing. Modern cataract surgery is one of the most successful procedures in the U.S., and our success rates are over 99% (all surgeries carry some risk, which you should discuss with your doctor). Mid Florida Eye Center’s board-certified, fellowship-trained doctors have contributed to the development of self-sealing, no-stitch cataract surgery techniques to opening the area’s first eye surgery center, Mid Florida Eye Center has been advancing eye care in Lake and surrounding counties for over 25 years. Now, with Laser Cataract Surgery, our patients have more options than ever before for restoring their vision and being independent of glasses.

Mid Florida Eye Center has had the honor of being asked by the leading eye care companies to participate in clinical trials for many lens implants including astigmatism correcting (toric) implants and multifocal implants. From helping pioneer no-stitch/no-needle cataract surgery techniques to opening the area’s first eye surgery center, Mid Florida Eye Center has been advancing eye care in Lake and surrounding counties for over 25 years. Now, with Laser Cataract Surgery, our patients have more options than ever before for restoring their vision and being independent of glasses.

Experience matters. Together, our internationally renowned cataract surgeons Dr. Jeffrey D. Baumann, Dr. Gregory J. Panzo, and Dr. Keith C. Charles have performed more than 140,000 successful cataract and laser procedures. They understand how to effectively leverage laser technology to achieve the best possible visual outcomes.

Advanced Technology Lenses
When paired with the right lens, Laser Cataract Surgery can dramatically improve your vision at all distances. Thanks to our participation in groundbreaking clinical research trials, we have a diverse selection of advanced technology lenses. We will help you choose the ones that best fit your lifestyle.

Keeping an Eye on New Technologies
Introducing the ORA System™
We’re always on the lookout for new technologies that benefit our patients. ORA System™ is a revolutionary technology used during cataract procedures to help surgeons achieve the best visual outcomes possible.

With ORA, we can accurately measure your eye’s unique characteristics to determine which intraocular lens implant (IOL) will fit best. If you’ve previously had LASIK, R.K., or laser surgery, ORA can significantly improve your chances of getting the results you’ve always wanted.

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Basic cataract surgery is an option for all patients but you must keep the following in mind: basic cataract surgery is a manual procedure where the surgeon uses a blade for some portions of the surgery. The lens used in basic cataract surgery is a monofocal (single focus) lens, which does not correct any optical problem with your eye other than the cataract removal. The potential drawback is that after surgery you may need to wear glasses for all tasks, even if you didn’t wear glasses before surgery. Basic cataract surgery with a monofocal lens is covered by insurance but there is an additional fee for all non-covered services/items.

Because there is such a diverse selection of monofocal lenses and potential optical problems that may go undetected, we offer Basic Plus cataract surgery as an option if you choose to forego or are not a candidate for laser cataract surgery. We use a range of highly advanced technologies to capture precise measurements and perform a more comprehensive evaluation. These measurements and the data they provide are then used to plan and perform cataract surgery to exact specifications not attainable with basic cataract surgery. Basic cataract surgery and the monofocal lens are covered by insurance but not the additional fees associated with this advanced technology and comprehensive evaluation.

Laser cataract surgery is an opportunity for patients who want increased freedom from glasses. It’s the most advanced cataract surgery technique available today. The surgery is bladeless, giving surgeons increased accuracy and the ability to correct astigmatism. Plus, the laser’s real time 3-D visualization, when combined with our surgeon’s expertise, results in a truly customized cataract procedure. When paired with advanced technology options, the precision of laser cataract surgery can dramatically improve your vision and lifestyle! Although insurance covers the cost of cataract surgery with a monofocal lens, they do not cover the additional fees associated with the advanced technology options performed with the laser.

LENsX® AUTOMATES THE MOST CHALLENGING STEPS OF TRADITIONAL CATARACT SURGERY, SUCH AS PERFORMING CORNEAL INCISIONS, OPENING THE CAPSULE AND SOFTENING AND BREAKING UP THE CATARACT. PRIOR TO THE INTRODUCTION OF THIS LASER, BASIC CATARACT SURGERY INVOLVED THE CREATION OF SEVERAL SMALL INCISIONS MADE MANUALLY WITH A BLADE. WITH LENsX®, THE SURGEON CAN CREATE THOSE INCISIONS WITH THE LASER, RESULTING IN A SIGNIFICANTLY HIGHER DEGREE OF PRECISION.

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An intraocular lens implant (IOL) is an artificial lens that is implanted during cataract surgery. Traditionally, monofocal IOLs were used in all cataract surgeries; however, people still needed glasses to correct near vision, and glasses or additional surgery to correct any astigmatism. Today technologically advanced IOLs that are used in cataract surgery allow you to see well at all distances with little or no help from glasses.

Advanced IOLs are also available to even correct astigmatism. Once cataract surgery is recommended, you will be presented with different package options based on your visual needs and what type of IOL best suits your lifestyle. The Basic monofocal IOL is usually covered by insurance as part of the cataract surgery procedure. Keep in mind advanced technology IOLs can provide better visual results and improve the quality of life for many years.

Cataract surgery with IOL implantation

CATARACT REMOVAL

After making a small incision in your eye, your surgeon will insert an instrument about the size of a pen tip to remove the cataract, using high-frequency sound waves to gently break up the cloudy lens (phacoemulsification), and then aspirate it away.

LENS INSERTION

The cataract-affected natural crystalline lens is replaced with an artificial intraocular lens implant (IOL). IOLs are typically made of a flexible material, allowing your surgeon to fold and insert the IOL through a very small incision. Once inserted, the IOL opens, and its haptics, or “arms,” unfold to keep it in place.

VISION RESTORED

Once the cataract is removed, and the IOL is in proper position, light can once again travel unimpeded to the back of your eye. Recovery after cataract surgery is generally quick and improvement usually occurs within only a few days and maximum improvement in a few weeks.

Advanced technology and IOL options

CUSTOM FULL RANGE VISION

MULTIFOCAL ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY AND IOL

Laser cataract surgery with an advanced technology multifocal IOL is designed to reduce the dependency on glasses and significantly improve vision at all distances. This option is best for patients wanting to be free of glasses for most of their daily activities. Although insurance covers the cost of cataract surgery, they do not cover the additional fees associated with the advanced technology options. Patients must meet specific requirements to be a candidate.

Positives:
- Excellent vision at all vision ranges
- Reduced or eliminated need for glasses
- Wavefront Analysis For True Vision Diagnostics

Negatives:
- May experience halos around lights at night (usually short term)
- May experience difficulty in low lighting situations, like reading in dark rooms.

CUSTOM DISTANCE VISION

ASTIGMATISM - CORRECTION AND ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY IOL

Combines laser cataract surgery with an advanced technology IOL to provide clear distance vision for patients with astigmatism, usually without a need for distance glasses. Although insurance covers the cost of cataract surgery, they do not cover the additional fees associated with the advanced technology options.

Positives:
- Excellent distance vision, without glasses, for astigmatism patients
- Wavefront Analysis For True Vision Diagnostics

Negatives:
- Will likely still require glasses for close-up vision

BASIC PLUS VISION

MONOFOCAL IOL

Because there is such a diverse selection of monofocal IOLs and potential optical problems that may go undetected, we offer Basic Plus cataract surgery. Highly advanced technologies are used to capture precise measurements, the data is then used to plan and perform cataract surgery to exact specifications not attainable with basic cataract surgery. Basic cataract surgery and the monofocal IOLs are covered by insurance but not the additional fees associated with this advanced technology and comprehensive evaluation.

Positives:
- Most costs are usually covered by insurance and Medicare

Negatives:
- Will likely still require glasses for close-up vision
- Does not correct Astigmatism

Depending on the degree of your astigmatism, see next page.
Astigmatism is a condition in which the surface of the eye is shaped oval rather than round. Astigmatism typically causes blurry, distorted vision at all distances if not treated. It is important to note that none of the astigmatism reduction options are perfect or completely predictable, but all are designed to reduce the amount of astigmatism present.

**Astigmatism Reduction Options**

**IOL Implant**
Is an advanced technology lens implant designed to correct astigmatism. It is important to understand that the IOL and the use of the laser can change your astigmatism at the time of cataract surgery and likely reduce the need for glasses for either distance or near tasks but typically not for both.

**ASTIGMATIC KERATOTOMY**
Is a procedure in which one or more incisions are made on the cornea manually with a surgical blade or with the laser in an attempt to reduce astigmatism and likely reduce the need for glasses for either distance or near tasks but typically not for both.

**LASIK/PRK**
Is a refractive procedure where the cornea is reshaped with the use of a laser to reduce astigmatism and likely reduce the need for glasses for either distance or near tasks but typically not for both. This procedure is not performed at the time of cataract surgery.

**GLASSES OR CONTACT LENSES**
You can choose to have a basic monofocal (single focus) IOL implanted for distance vision and wear separate reading and computer glasses, or have the lens implanted for near vision and wear separate glasses for distance.

**Cataracts do not grow back.** Sometimes, after the initial successful cataract surgery, vision can become blurred when the capsule that supports the intraocular lens becomes cloudy. This problem can be easily remedied with laser surgery. Your doctor will use a YAG laser to open the center of the lens capsule. This procedure allows light to pass clearly to the retina again and takes only a few minutes to perform. There are no restrictions after the procedure and the opening made is permanent.
Geneva W., 71, Tavares Resident
Geneva is a patient who wishes she’d opted for cataract surgery years ago. She had worn glasses since age 42, but her deteriorating eyesight was starting to affect her life. Geneva had put away her scrapbook, a favorite pastime of hers, and was even having trouble recognizing neighbors as they walked by her house.

As a regular patient of Dr. Baumann, she was aware of the option for surgery, but had never felt ready to give it a try until now. “That’s what I appreciate about Dr. Baumann,” she says. “He’s very conservative and never pushy. But when I have a problem, he’s always right on top of it.”

Based on Geneva’s lifestyle and needs, Dr. Baumann recommended a multifocal intracocular lens implant designed to improve vision at a range of distances. She recalls that on the day of surgery, she felt 100% ready. “My only apprehension was the anesthesia, because I don’t usually require very much. But I told the anesthesiologist that I only needed a small amount and they actually listened, it’s not often that they do. I was so impressed that my needs were heard!”

Following surgery, Geneva was amazed that she was able to have such drastic improvements so quickly. “Every time I looked at something I couldn’t believe I was seeing it with my bare eyes. I just couldn’t get over the fact that I could see at all distances from reading to working on the computer to driving without my glasses!”

Steven S., 56, Mount Dora Resident
For some patients, the opportunity to participate in a clinical research study can be life changing. For Steven, participating in a research study was like winning the lottery. He had astigmatism, an eye condition that causes blurry vision, and was dependent on glasses for everyday life. Even with glasses, he was finding it difficult to enjoy his two favorite hobbies: reading and container gardening. With his vision progressively getting worse, he was forced to change the prescription of his glasses every six months. “It was getting to be quite an ordeal,” he recalls. When, during a routine visit, Dr. Panzo presented him with the opportunity to participate in a research study for the toric multifocal lens, a type of intracocular (inside your eye) lens implant, Steven jumped at the chance. “Here I was expecting to have my prescription changed, and instead I was given the opportunity to change my life!”

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