Cataract Surgery
Intra-ocular lens implant guide

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Your doctor has recommended cataract surgery to help improve your vision. A cataract is a clouding of the eye’s natural lens which resulted in blurred or defocused vision. Cataract surgery is a routine operation, where a small incision is made in the eye. The cataract is gently broken up with ultrasound energy and the cloudy lens is removed, replacing it with an artificial intra-ocular lens (IOL).

Due to recent technological advances, there are three different types of IOLs that you may choose from. Shoreline Vision is pleased to offer you all of our options and to explain their potential benefits.

For many people, wearing glasses after cataract surgery for their visual demands is not a difficulty. Some enjoy wearing glasses for a multitude of reasons. The doctors at Shoreline Vision want to ensure that you have a good understanding of all of these options so you can make the best educated decision for your eye surgery.

- **Monofocal IOL:** Monofocal lens technology is what is performed in general for patients having cataract surgery and lens implantation. This technology has been around for many years and has improved millions of patient’s vision. Using a monofocal IOL, your surgeon is able to choose the postoperative power of your eyes. This means that you can have improved distance or near vision, but not both. The monofocal IOL corrects your vision for one distance only. This means that you will continue to be dependent on glasses for some tasks.

- **Multifocal IOL:** Multifocal lens implants are the newest technology available. These implants are designed to improve your vision to see near, far, and everything in-between. Based on FDA clinical data, there is an 80% chance you will not have to wear eyeglasses again. This does not imply a perfect visual system, however. Because of the multifocal nature of the lens, you will see halos, especially at night. This lens is best when it is implanted in both eyes in a timely fashion. There is an adaptation period after insertion where your brain has to adapt to the new implants. This lens performs best in people who tend to not be Type A, detailed oriented people. The lens will give you good vision at all distances MOST of the time. The additional cost of this lens is $1950 per eye.

- **Toric IOL:** Toric lens implants are used in patients who have astigmatism in their eyes. Astigmatism is when your eye is shaped more like a football than a basketball, causing blurred vision in all distances. The unique design of the new Acrysof® Toric IOL makes it possible to reduce or eliminate astigmatism and significantly improve uncorrected distance vision. Not all patients are good candidates for the IOL and more advanced measurements may need to be taken prior to your surgery. This lens does NOT allow you to read at near without your glasses. The additional cost of this lens is $950 per eye.

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