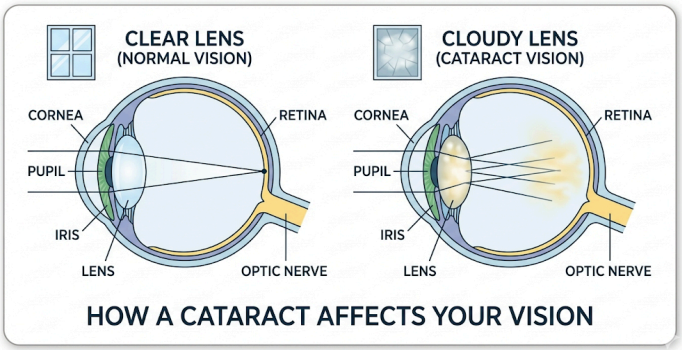
Understanding Your Vision



Your eye is like a camera. The front part focuses light, and inside the eye is a natural lens that helps focus that light onto the retina. Over time, this lens naturally changes.

- **For some, this change results in a Cataract:** The lens becomes cloudy, making vision feel blurry, hazy, or washed out.
- **For others, this change results in Presbyopia:** The lens loses its flexibility, making it difficult to focus on near objects (like reading or phones) even if the distance vision remains clear.

In both cases, the solution is the same: we replace the natural, aging lens with a clear, permanent, customized artificial lens.

Why Consider Lens Surgery?

Whether you are experiencing the onset of cataracts or simply want to reduce your dependence on reading glasses and contacts (Refractive Lens Exchange), you are a candidate for surgery if your vision is interfering with your goals.

You are likely ready to discuss surgery if:

- **Night Driving:** You notice glare, halos, or difficulty seeing road signs in the dark.
- **Daily Tasks:** You are frustrated by having to reach for reading glasses constantly or feeling "foggy" during the day.
- **Active Lifestyle:** You find yourself avoiding sports, travel, or outdoor activities because glasses/contacts are a burden.
- **Independence:** You simply want to reclaim the visual freedom you had when you were younger.

The Bottom Line: You are the best judge of your visual quality of life. If your current vision is not supporting the lifestyle you want to lead, it is time to have the conversation with your surgeon.

Your Lens Options for Cataract Surgery

Surgery to treat cataracts is an outpatient procedure. In cataract surgery, your surgeon removes the clouded natural lens and replaces it with an artificial lens (IOL). This procedure not only cures cataracts, but can make one less dependent on glasses or contacts. There are multiple lens options and opportunities for corrected vision.

Certain lens options are not right for everyone. Your surgeon will help you determine the best lens to fit your individual needs. Here are the current lens choices and information:

Lens Options

Lens	Target of Vision Options	Correction for Astigmatism?	Provider Notes
Standard	1.) Both eyes set for distance *(Glasses will be needed for near – and distance if astigmatism present)* 2.) Both eyes set for near *(Glasses will be needed for distance – and near if astigmatism present)*	No – *Although Ora/LRI can be added if needed.*	• Glasses will be required post-surgical correction. • *Covered by most insurance plans.
Standard - Monovision	1.) One eye set for near. One eye set for distance. • *Glasses may be required for fine print or night driving if desired* • *Distance eye (dominant eye) typically done first*	Usually needed with Ora/LRI or Toric lens.	• Excellent chance of reducing need for glasses or contact lenses. • Patients may have difficulty adjusting, but this is unlikely. • Easier adjustment for those who have had monovision with contacts. • Not recommended if certain ophthalmic pathologies are present. • *Additional cost.

*Ora/LRI may be added to Standard lens to correct for *mild* astigmatism. *Moderate to severe* astigmatism would require a Toric lens.

*Additional lens options on second page

Your Lens Options for Cataract Surgery

Lens	Target of Vision Options	Correction for Astigmatism?	Provider Notes
Toric	1.) Both eyes set for distance *(Glasses will be needed for near)* 2.) Both eyes set for near *(Glasses will be needed for distance)*	Yes – *This corrects for moderate to severe astigmatism.*	• Glasses will be required post-surgical correction. • Not recommended if certain ophthalmic pathologies are present. • May require LASIK/PRK after surgery (provided at no additional cost for one year). • *Additional cost.
Toric - Monovision	1.) One eye set for near. One eye set for distance. • *Glasses may be required for fine print or night driving if desired* • *Distance eye (dominant eye) typically done first*	Yes – *This corrects for moderate to severe astigmatism.*	• Excellent chance of reducing need for glasses or contact lenses. • Patients may have difficulty adjusting. • Easier adjustment for those who have had monovision with contacts. • Not recommended if certain ophthalmic pathologies are present. • May require LASIK/PRK after surgery (provided at no additional cost for one year). • *Additional cost.
Multifocal	1.) Vision set for near & far.	No.	• Small print may require glasses. • Patients usually experience glare and halos around lights at night. This typically improves, or further treatment can be considered if needed. • Recommended to have in both eyes within a 3-month period. • Not recommended if certain ophthalmic pathologies are present. • May require LASIK/PRK after surgery (provided at no additional cost for one year). • *Additional cost
Multifocal Toric	1.) Vision set for near & far.	Yes – *This corrects for moderate to severe astigmatism.*	• Small print reading may require glasses. • Patients usually experience glare and halos around lights at night. This typically improves, or further treatment can be considered if needed. • Recommended to have in both eyes within a 3-month period. • Not recommended if certain ophthalmic pathologies are present. • May require LASIK/PRK after surgery (provided at no additional cost for one year). • *Additional cost
Light-Adjustable Lens (LAL)	1.) Allows your vision to be customized after surgery. 2.) Provides the option to try monovision (near and distance vision).	Yes – *This corrects for moderate to severe astigmatism.*	• Excellent chance of reducing need for glasses or contact lenses. • Initially vision will be set for Distance until adjustments are started which happens 3-week po surgery. (readers are needed after surgery) • UV Protective glasses are to be **Worn at all times** when outdoors • Total time of UV glasses can be at least **8-12 weeks** after surgery