

Advances in Lens Implants

Up until recently, choosing the type of Lens Implant to correct your vision after Cataract Surgery was exclusively at the discretion of the Cataract Surgeon. Today, there are many types of Intraocular Lens Implants (IOL) that can be used depending on the lifestyle of the patient and whether being independent of eyeglasses, including reading glasses and bifocals, is a personal goal after www.seewithlasik.com/docs/cataracts_surgery.html>Cataract Surgery.

These different types of Lens Implants include Monofocal Lens Implants which are the most basic type of lens implant and only correct distance vision and not arms length or close reading vision, Aspheric Lens Implants which offer a higher quality distance vision but still do not correct arms length or close reading vision, Toric Lens Implants for those patients with astigmatism and Near Vision Presbyopia Correcting Lens Implants which correct not only distance vision, but also arms length vision and close reading vision for most patients.

Monofocal Lens Implants

A Monofocal Lens Implants is the most basic type of Lens Implant used to correct vision after Cataract Surgery. For approximately the first thirty years of Lens Implant Surgery, all Lens Implants were of a type called a Monofocal Lens Implant. A Monofocal Lens Implant can provide very good vision after Cataract Surgery-but only at one set distance-usually for seeing things at a distance such as for driving or going to the movies. A Monofocal Lens Implant does not correct intermediate or arms length vision for doing things like playing cards and seeing the golf ball on the tee, or even seeing computer screens clearly. Nor do Monofocal Lens Implants correct near vision for doing things up close such as seeing medicine bottles, reading or keeping your golf score, as these tasks require the [/www.seewithlasik.com/docs/presbyopia/presbyopia.html](http://www.seewithlasik.com/docs/presbyopia/presbyopia.html)>correction of Presbyopia. Thus patients electing to have Monofocal Lens Implants will be dependent on glasses either some or most of the time in about 70% of cases.

Aspheric Lens Implants

An Aspheric Lens Implant is a type of Lens Implant that is specifically designed to reduce the visual disturbances caused by the optical aberrations found in ordinary Lens Implants. This reduces the tendency to see "glare" that you might experience with basic Lens Implants and thus can offer improved sharpness and contrast, helping patients in certain lighting conditions. Aspheric Lens Implants only correct distance or far vision, such as that required for driving. Aspheric Lens Implants do not usually correct intermediate or "arms length" vision, such as that required for viewing computer screens, and do not correct near vision as required for reading. Patients who wish to have the best quality of distance vision may wish to consider an Aspheric Lens Implant, but need to remember that it will still be necessary to wear reading glasses or bifocals to correct their intermediate and near vision. Aspheric Lens Implants usually cost slightly more than a basic lens implant and it is possible that your insurance will not completely cover the cost of the Aspheric Lens Implant. If you are particularly demanding and want the best possible distance vision after your Cataract Surgery, you will be able to discuss this option with your Cataract Surgeon and Lens Counselors during your Cataract Consultation.

Toric Lens Implants

Toric Lens Implants are a type of Lens Implant that can correct astigmatism. Astigmatism is an optical aberration that is caused by the cornea being shaped more like a football, than spherical like a basketball.

For Cataract patients who have astigmatism, and who do not wish to wear eyeglasses to see clearly at a distance, choosing a Toric Lens Implant may help them to be independent of glasses for tasks such as driving that require clear distance vision. Toric Lens Implants do not correct Presbyopia, and thus even with Toric Lens Implants to correct astigmatism after Cataract Surgery, most patients still require reading glasses or bifocals to be able to comfortably perform near vision tasks such as reading and intermediate vision tasks such as computer work.

Near Vision Presbyopia Correcting Lens Implants

Near Vision Presbyopia Correcting Lens Implants provide excellent vision after Cataract Surgery at the full range of distances- far or distance vision, arms length or intermediate vision and up close near vision. Depending on your specific vision requirements, there are several types of presbyopia correcting lens implants. These include the Crystalens Lens Implant®, the ReSTOR® Lens Implant and the ReZoom™ Lens Implant. Each of these lens implants or Intraocular Lenses (IOL) works in a different way to help you achieve your vision correction goals of being able to see at a variety of distances after cataract surgery-without being dependent on eyeglasses. Presbyopia correcting multifocal lens implants correct both your distance vision and your presbyopia after cataract surgery. For the vast majority of patients, having a multifocal lens implant means that you will be able to see at distance and up close without being dependent on eyeglasses, reading glasses or bifocals.

About the Author

Katherine E. Carlisle is the Managing Partner of the patient education and information website www.seewithlasik.com. This site is dedicated to providing patients with current information regarding LASIK, Cataracts, www.seewithlasik.com/docs/cataract_surgery.htmlCataract Surgery & Lens Implants and certain eye diseases that are often treatable with Laser Eye Surgery such as Macular Degeneration, Diabetic Retinopathy and

Glaucoma.

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