Common vision problems that our procedures can correct.



For you to see clearly, light rays must be focused by the cornea and lens to fall precisely on your retina, a layer of light sensing cells that line the back of your eye. The retina converts light rays into impulses that are sent through the optic nerve to your brain, which interprets them as images.



Farsightedness (hyperopia) This problem affects about a fourth of the population. People with farsightedness can see distant objects well but have difficulty focusing on objects that are up close.

Farsighted people sometimes suffer headaches or eye strain. They may also squint or feel fatigued when performing work at close range. Hyperopia occurs when the eyeball is too short, causing light rays entering the eye to focus behind the retina rather than directly on it.



Nearsightedness (myopia) This is the most common refractive error of the eye. If you are nearsighted, you typically will have difficulty seeing distant objects clearly but are able to see well for close-up tasks. Other symptoms of myopia include squinting, eye strain and headaches. Myopia occurs when the eyeball is too long, causing light rays to focus at a point in front of the retina rather than directly on its surface.



Astigmatism People with this condition usually suffer blurred or distorted vision at all distances. Symptoms include eye strain, squinting and headaches, especially after reading or other prolonged visual tasks. Astigmatism is usually caused by an irregularly shaped cornea. Instead of the cornea being symmetrically round, it becomes more oblong. Light fails to come to a single focus point on the retina to produce clear vision.



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KNOW THE OPTIONS. LASIK · PRK · VISIAN ICL

Discover how the latest advances in vision correction can improve your sight.

Today, you can choose from several choices of permanent vision correction procedures that include LASIK, PRK and an implantable lens called the Visian ICL. Deciding on the vision correction procedure that's right for you is an important one. Understand the different options and see how they compare.



LASIK (laser-assisted in situ keratomileusis) is the most popular laser eye surgery to treat nearsightedness, farsightedness and astigmatism. It is a procedure that permanently changes the shape of the cornea, the clear covering of the front of the eye, using an excimer laser. In most cases, LASIK is pain-free and takes about 15 minutes for both eyes. It requires only a topical anesthetic and no bandages or stitches are needed.

LASIK

The LASIK procedure works by reshaping the cornea to enable the light entering the eye to focus properly onto the retina. Numbing eye drops are applied to the eye surface with drops and the surgeon creates a thin circular flap in the cornea. The surgeon then folds back the hinged flap to access the underlying cornea. Using a highly specialized laser with a cool ultraviolet light beam, the surgeon removes a small amount of tissue to correct the shape of the cornea. After reshaping the eye, the flap is replaced to serve as a type of natural bandage.

LASIK is performed on each eye separately, with each procedure taking only about five minutes. Most patients experience little or no discomfort after LASIK. In as short as 24-hours, patients can enjoy vision of 20/20 or better without glasses or contacts.

- The most commonly performed laser eye surgery
- Quick recovery and results
- · Patients see results almost immediately

PRK (photorefractive keratectomy) is the predecessor to LASIK. It's still commonly performed and offers distinct advantages over LASIK for some patients with nearsightedness, farsightedness or astigmatism.

PRK

The idea behind PRK is the same as LASIK, using a laser to correct the shape of the cornea to improve how light enters the eye and focuses onto the retina. What sets PRK apart is how the surgeon reaches the cornea. During a LASIK procedure, the surgeon cuts a thin hinged flap on the outer surface. With PRK the whole outer surface is removed, giving the surgeon access to the entire thickness of the underlying cornea. The surface naturally grows back in a few weeks.

PRK is of particular benefit if the cornea is too thin for LASIK or if a patient has undergone LASIK previously. PRK also eliminates the risk of flap complications and reduces the chance that too much of the cornea will be removed.

PRK only takes about 15 minutes to complete. Recovery time is usually a few weeks. Most people enjoy 20/20 vision after surgery and nearly all patients achieve 20/40 visual acuity or better.

- Less depth of laser treatment than LASIK
- Suitable for patients with a thin cornea
- No risk of corneal flap complications
- Reduced risk of compromised corneal thickness

VISIAN ICL

Visian ICL (Implantable Collamer Lens) is an alternative to LASIK and PRK for correcting moderate to severe nearsightedness. Implantable lenses produce excellent visual results. In fact, many active duty US Military and top performing athletes have embraced the Visian ICL procedure because of the reliable visual clarity it achieves.

Implantable lenses function like contact lenses to correct nearsightedness. The difference is that they work from within the eye instead of sitting on the surface of the eye. They offer permanent vision correction for nearsightedness but can be removed or replaced if vision needs change over time. The clear lenses are placed behind the iris and in front of the natural lens. This enables light to focus properly on the retina. As an added benefit, the Visian ICL lens material contains UV protection that blocks harmful UV rays.

Unlike contacts, patients can't feel the Visian ICL in their eye. Apart from regular eye exams, the Visian ICL typically does not require any maintenance. Because the Visian ICL is placed behind the iris, it is undetectable to onlookers.

After the 15-minute outpatient procedure, patients usually experience an immediate improvement in their sight. Recovery time is usually pain-free and short.

- Permanent procedure, yet removable if necessary
- Quick recovery and results
- Suitable for patients with a thin cornea
- Ideal option for dry eye patients

KNOW THE OPTIONS. SEE HOW THEY COMPARE.

Deciding on the vision correction procedure that's right for you is an important one. See how the different options compare and ask your eye care professional about the details.

| | | VISIAN ICL | LASIK | PRK |
|----------------------------|---------|-----------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|
| Vision Quality | | | | |
| Visual acuity | | Excellent | Excellent | Excellent |
| Patient Experience | | | | |
| Recovery time | 1, | Quick | Quick | Up to 4 weeks |
| Outpatient procedure | | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| 15-20 minute surgery | ß | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Immediate visual acuity | | Yes | Yes | No |
| Contributes to dry eye | | No | Occasional | Yes, during recovery period |
| Patient satisfaction | :) | High | High | High |
| Safety Features | | | | |
| Removable or reversible | | Yes | No | No |
| UV protection | \odot | Yes | No | No |
| Patient Types | | | | |
| Nearsightedness | E | Moderate to severe | Mild to moderate | Mild to moderate |
| Farsightedness | E | No | Yes | Yes |
| Astigmatism | | No | Yes | Yes |
| Thin cornea | | Yes | Limited | Limited |
| Large pupil | \odot | Yes | Limited | Limited |