

The Houston Guide To CATARACT CARE

The Era of Laser Cataract Surgery & Light Adjustable Lenses

One of the most dramatic breakthroughs in cataract care in the past decade is the introduction of laser cataract surgery, a Medicare-approved procedure that is unsurpassed in precision, accuracy and safety in multiple areas of the cataract surgery process. Laser cataract surgery offers surgeons automated laser precision in performing the three most critical components of cataract surgery: Making the Capsulorhexis incision; Segmenting the cataract; Removing the cataract. Laser precision accuracy helps surgeons achieve more consistent and optimal cataract outcomes.

Customizing Your Vision AFTER Cataract Surgery

Thanks to the revolutionary 'Light Adjustable Lens,' (LAL) patients can now customize their vision AFTER cataract surgery. The LAL is the first & ONLY intraocular lens of its kind that can be customized with ultraviolet light after a patient undergoes cataract surgery. The optimization / customization can be patient directed and is performed in the office by your eye doctor in the weeks following your procedure. Berkeley Eye Center has helped pioneer this technology and participated in the national clinical trials to gain FDA approval and was the first practice in South Texas to perform the LAL procedure.



What Are Cataracts & When Should They Be Removed?



A cataract is simply the result of our body's natural aging process. As we age, the natural lens in our eyes becomes thicker and cloudy, initiating the need for reading glasses or bifocals. The progressive clouding of our eye's natural lens interferes with light being focused on the back of the eye (retina), which causes a gradual but continuous loss of vision. The only way to restore your vision is to remove your cloudy natural lens and replace it with a specially designed intraocular lens implant (IOL).

Fortunately, modern-day cataract surgery is safest, most common and most successful medical procedure performed today. Cataract surgery is made even safer when performed in an 'eye-dedicated' outpatient surgery center.



Your VISION Your CHOICE: Cataract Patients Do Not Need A Referral

The vast majority of practices performing cataract surgery accept Medicare and other major insurance providers and do NOT require patients to have a referral from their family physician. Patients may choose ANY eye surgeon they want to perform their procedure and are encouraged to research a surgeon's experience, training and surgical expertise.

Customizing Your Cataract Procedure

To compensate for the removal of the eye's natural lens, a synthetic Intraocular Lens Implant (IOL) is implanted into the eye. These specially manufactured lenses are about the size of Lincoln's head on a penny and weigh a little more than a single kernel of corn. They are manufactured and polished to the precise curvature needed to properly focus light rays on the retina in the back of your eye.

New technology IOLs now allow today's eye surgeons to customize your vision following surgery based on your specific lifestyle. These new 'Multifocal,' 'Extended Depth of Focus,' 'Light Adjustable Lenses,' and Toric lenses for the correction of Astigmatism can be fully customized during & after cataract surgery.

Different lenses provide patients various ranges of vision following their cataract procedure. These Premium Intraocular Lenses (PIOL) are designed to correct Astigmatism and provide patients a much broader range of near, intermediate and distance vision than ever before. Not every patient is an ideal candidate for these lenses, so be sure to ask your surgeon for more information.

Medicare Approves Upgrading Your Vision

Medicare and the insurance industry now allows cataract patients to upgrade your vision during surgery with 'New Technology' PIOLs. These advanced lenses are approved by Medicare, but they are not covered by Medicare or your insurance provider. Therefore, patients are responsible for any additional fees for these premium lens implants.



The Benefits of Outpatient Cataract Surgery

Most cataract surgery procedures in the United States today are performed in an outpatient setting. Outpatient cataract surgery at dedicated eye surgery centers is designed to maximize patient safety, comfort and convenience. Having your cataract procedure in an outpatient surgery center is also the most affordable method of cataract surgery.

Cataract surgery can be performed in 15-20 minutes, but patients can expect to be in the ASC 1.5 to 2 hours. The good news about cataract surgery is one of the surgical procedures where patients can experience a better quality and range of vision than they were born with.

In addition to saving you out-of-pocket expenses, outpatient cataract surgery reduces the costs of health care to Medicare and the insurance industry when compared to hospital-based cataract care. Be sure to ask your surgeon whether or not your cataract surgery is being performed in a private outpatient setting or in a hospital-based ASC.

Understand Your Cataract Surgery Options

At most ophthalmology practices, patients have the added benefit of working with their cataract surgery to choose a 'Cataract Package' that is an ideal fit for their age and lifestyle. Here is an overview of the three main packages offered by most practices.

STANDARD CATARACT SURGERY

The best option for the individual who does not mind wearing bifocals after cataract surgery.

- Includes a standard 'single vision' IOL
- Improves patients' distance vision
- Does not correct Astigmatism
- Does not improve near vision

ASTIGMATISM MANAGEMENT CATARACT SURGERY

The best option for the individual who desires sharp distance vision without glasses.

- Includes an Astigmatism-correcting Toric IOL and/or a Femtosecond Laser
- Reduces or eliminates dependence of prescription glasses for distance vision
- Cataract surgery with the reduction of higher levels of pre-existing astigmatism
- Enhances vision at night and in low light conditions
- Does not improve near vision

PREMIUM CATARACT SURGERY

The best option for the individual who wants a broader, less-restricted range of vision with little or no dependence on prescription eyewear.

- Includes a Multifocal, Extended Depth of Focus or Light Adjustable IOL
- Provides an expanded range of vision: near, intermediate and distance vision
- Corrects Astigmatism and targets freedom from bifocals after surgery
- Includes LASIK enhancement procedure if necessary

AT BERKELEY EYE CENTER...

We help sponsor the Houston Guide To Cataract Care in an effort to help patients make a more informed decision. This includes helping them understand any and all out-of-pocket expenses and why certain procedures may be 'Approved' but not 'Covered' by their insurance provider.

Because the cost of laser cataract surgery and PIOLs vary by practice, most practices have specially-trained counselors to educate you on all aspects of cataract surgery and assure your questions about costs and benefits are completely answered. This is typically accomplished through personalized patient counseling sessions and thorough eye examinations. The most satisfied patient is the most educated patient, which is why we embrace technology that will improve safety and enhance your visual outcomes.

We are passionate in our efforts to make laser cataract surgery affordable for all patients who qualify for this technology and spend the additional time necessary to explain fees and out-of-pocket expenses not covered by your insurance provider.

Out-of-Pocket Costs For Premium Cataract Surgery

Medicare and the insurance industry fully approves premium lens implants - including the Light Adjustable Lens - as well as Laser Cataract Surgery and allows patients to 'Upgrade' their vision with these surgical products and services. However, Medicare and insurance providers do not 'Cover' these services, which means patients are responsible for any out-of-pocket expenses. Patients have every right to discuss these options with their doctor (staff) and have their questions answered regarding any out-of-pocket expenses they may incur.

Houston Area Locations

Atascocita
18545 W Lake Houston Pkwy
Atascocita, TX 77346

Bay City
6500 7th St. Ste. 200
Bay City, TX 77414

Baytown
1025 Birdsong Drive Ste. A
Baytown, Texas, 77521

Brenham
05 Medical Courts #203
Brenham, TX 77833

Champions
5419 FM 1960 Rd W. Ste C
Houston, TX 77069

Clear Lake
18040 Saturn Ln.
Houston, TX 77058

Cleveland
901 E Houston St.
Cleveland, TX 77327

Dayton
306 N Main St. Ste. A
Dayton, TX 77535

East Freeway
12140 East Fwy
Houston, TX 77029

El Campo
2012 West Loop
El Campo, TX 77437

Grand Oaks
3929 Woodson's Reserve Pkwy
Spring, TX 77386

Greenway Plaza
3100 Wesleyan St. Ste 400
Houston, TX 77027

Harrisburg
7438 Harrisburg Blvd.
Houston, TX 77011

Huntsville
2 Financial Plaza #801
Huntsville, TX 77340

Katy
21502 Merchants Way
Katy, TX 77449

Kingwood
22741 Professional Dr.
Kingwood, TX 77339

Lake Jackson
117 Circle Way St.
Lake Jackson, TX 77566

Memorial
8731 Katy Freeway, #300
Houston, Texas, 77024

Pearland
1535 Cullen Blvd. Ste. 200
Pearland, TX 77581

Retina West
902 Frostwood Dr. Ste. 256
Houston, Texas, 77024

Sugar Land
1435 Hwy 6 Ste 202
Sugar Land, TX 77478

The Shops Downtown
1200 McKinney St. #411
Houston, TX 77010

The Woodlands
143 Vision Park Blvd.
The Woodlands, TX, 77384

Tomball
14030 FM 2920 Ste. E
Tomball, TX 77377

Wharton
1602 N Fulton St.
Wharton, TX 77488



See if cataract surgery
is right for you!