LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY HEALTH

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**Many Strengths.
One Mission.**

Cataract Surgery Educational Information

LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY HEALTH

What is a Cataract?

One of the most common problems which can affect vision is a cataract. Almost everyone who lives a long life will eventually develop cataracts. The term cataract is used to describe a natural lens that has turned cloudy, usually as part of the natural aging process. Cataracts are not a growth, a film, or a type of cancer. Light cannot pass through a cataract easily, so the retina only receives blurred and distorted images.

Here at Loma Linda University Eye Institute, we want you to have the best care and education on cataracts.

Vision with a Cataract

Vision after Cataract Surgery

Symptoms of a Cataract:

- Blurry vision
- Seeing double (seeing the same image twice)
- Glare
- Needing extra light to read/view at night

Treatment: Cataract Surgery

You should consider cataract surgery when your vision has decreased to the point where you can no longer easily or safely perform daily activities. The surgery is an outpatient procedure done under local anesthesia with mild sedation. During cataract surgery, your eye surgeon will remove your eye's cloudy natural lens and replace it with an artificial lens. This new lens is called an intraocular lens (or IOL). When you decide to have cataract surgery, your doctor will discuss with you your IOL options.

Please visit our website LLUEyes.com for a more detailed review of the surgery and IOL options. To schedule an appointment please call us at 909-558-2154.

What are IOLs?

An intraocular lens (IOL) is a tiny, artificial lens for the eye, which replaces the eye's natural lens that is removed during cataract surgery. IOLs come in different focusing powers. Your ophthalmologist will measure the length of your eye and the curve of your cornea before surgery. These measurements are used to set your IOLs focusing power.

What are IOLs Made of?

Most IOLs are made of silicone or acrylic. They are also coated with a special material to help protect your eyes from the sun's harmful ultraviolet (UV) rays. We use almost exclusively acrylic IOLs

What is Astigmatism?

Astigmatism is uneven curvature of the cornea, causing blurred vision. At the time of cataract surgery astigmatism can be corrected with the IOL or corneal incisions.

What about Nighttime Halos?

Nighttime halos and glare can occur after cataract surgery. These are related to reflections from the IOL used at the time of surgery.

IOL Options Offered at LLUEI

1. Monofocal IOL: Covered by Insurance

- Basic IOL that has one focusing distance. Eyeglasses will be needed for distance vision if significant astigmatism is present, and for near work activities (computer use, reading).

- **Who is this for?**
  Patients that do not mind wearing glasses full-time after surgery. Also best IOL for patients with other significant eye disorders (diabetic retinopathy, severe glaucoma and macular degeneration).

2. Toric (Astigmatism) IOL: *$2,200 per eye

- Reduces or eliminates corneal astigmatism, providing **improved distance vision without glasses**. Most patients with the Toric IOL will still need glasses for computer and near vision activities.

- **Who is this for?**
  Patients with astigmatism who desire ambulatory vision without glasses (walking, watching TV, driving) but do not mind wearing glasses for computer use and near.

3. Extended Depth of Focus IOL (EDOF IOL) *$3,400 per eye

- Provides **clear vision far away and arm's length, with functional up close vision**. Patients with EDOF IOL may still need glasses for some computer and near vision activities.

- **Who is this for?**
  Patients who desire ambulatory vision without glasses but do not mind wearing glasses for extended computer use and reading.

4. Multifocal IOL: *$3,400 per eye

- Provides **full range of distance, intermediate and near vision without glasses.** Provides better fine near vision vs. the Extended Depth of Focus IOL

- **Who is this for?**
  Patients who desire ambulatory vision without glasses (walking, watching TV, driving) , and prefer to be eyeglasses free for computer work and near vision activities (reading, sewing). Willing to tolerate night-time halos, glare, and/or starbursts visual side effects.

*Effective March 1, 2025 - Subject to change