What’s the best solution for treating Cataracts?
How important is it to wake up each morning to clear vision?

Your best solution for clear vision.

At Northwest Eye, we believe that improved sight means more than seeing your best. It means being your best.

That is why we are committed to using the most advanced technology for laser, implant and cataract vision correction. If you are considering one or more of these options, look over the following information, research your options and decide what’s best for you. We’ll be there to answer any questions and help you along the decision making process.

What is a cataract?

A cataract is a clouding of the normally clear lens in your eye. Though painless, cataracts can blur your vision by restricting the amount of light that enters your eye. In addition to hazy vision, indications of cataracts include increasing night-time glare, poor night vision and a change in how your eyes perceive colors.

In a healthy eye, the iris (the colored part of the eye) regulates the amount of light that enters the eye through the pupil. The light passes through the lens, where it is focused onto the retina at the back of the eye. Signals are then sent from the retina to the brain via the optic nerve, where they are translated into the images you see. An eye with a cataract functions normally except that the lens has grown cloudy.
Light enters the eye as usual, but the clouded lens disperses the light, causing the retina to have difficulty transmitting a clear image. Therefore, because the light that the retina receives is patchy, the retina’s transmissions to the brain are also affected, resulting in hazy, blurred vision.

Most people’s lenses will naturally become a bit cloudy as they age, and because cataracts tend to develop slowly, surgery may not be immediately necessary. But when your ability to read, drive or carry out other normal activities is hindered in any way, cataract surgery will likely be the best possible solution.

How do you know if you have cataracts?

The most important step is to visit your eye doctor so that he or she can evaluate your vision. This evaluation will generally include vision tests, an eye exam and a review of your medical history to uncover any other vision problems you may have. If you are found to have cataracts, our team offers the most advanced, mini-incision, no-suture cataract surgery combined with the most exhaustive laser and implant options you will find anywhere in the region. The next few pages will outline your new lens options for cataract surgery.

Be EyeWise
What’s the best solution for treating cataracts?

In order to remove a cataract, your doctor uses the most advanced mini-incision surgical methods. This allows for less risk, faster healing and often times does not require a suture. A surgeon will begin by making an incision on the eye in order to remove the clouded lens. Then, through a process called phacoemulsification, the doctor uses ultrasound to break the cloudy lens into pieces for removal through the small incision. The cloudy lens will then be replaced by a new artificial lens. The new lens will not change the outward appearance of your eye, but it can dramatically improve your vision.

The exact prescription power of each lens implant is measured specifically for your eye. All are held in place by small flexible loops attached to the lens. Lenses are intended to last a lifetime and are made of materials like silicone and acrylic that will not irritate your eye.

Although your vision will be clearer after surgery and the healing process, you may still need glasses to optimize your vision.

Traditional Cataract Surgery

Fees for this lens and surgery are usually paid by Medicare and other insurance plans (minus co-pay, co-insurance, and deductible). This standard surgery includes the following:

- The medical/therapeutic removal of the cloudy lens and replacement of the lens with a standard lens
- Single preoperative measurement
Advanced Refractive Laser Vision Packages

At Northwest Eye, we can improve upon traditional cataract surgery by using multiple preoperative measurements and intra operative laser technology to achieve better vision without glasses.

Three Advanced Package Options

Northwest Eye offers three Advanced Refractive Laser Vision Packages that your doctor can recommend based on your visual outcome goals. We have designed these packages to allow you options to reduce your dependency on glasses.

- SINGLE DISTANCE VISION PACKAGE
- DISTANCE + READING MONOVISION PACKAGE
- DISTANCE + READING SPECIALTY IOL/ ACCOMMODATING PACKAGE

Traditional Cataract Surgery removes your cloudy lens and replaces it with a new artificial lens. Your vision will be clear but glasses will be needed after surgery.

Clear single distance can be achieved with Northwest Eye’s Advanced Single Distance Package but reading glasses will still be needed.

You can be free of glasses and have clear vision with one of Northwest Eye’s Advanced Distance + Reading Vision Packages.

Be Eye Wise
Continuously offering the latest technology.

**FEMTOSECOND LASER TECHNOLOGY**

Our advanced packages utilize femtosecond laser technology, which is a custom, blade-free cataract removal procedure. Traditional cataract surgery has always involved a blade to create several small incisions and ultrasound to break up the cataract. However, utilizing this new technology, the cataract is broken up and the incisions are now made with a laser.

This technological breakthrough allows surgeons to plan and perform cataract surgeries with laser precision. Surgeons now have more control, flexibility, and real-time tools for an accurate visual of what’s going on inside the eye.

**ADVANCED INTRA-OCULAR LENS (IOL) TECHNOLOGY**

There are many IOL options available that reduce your dependency on glasses. These IOLs can offer multiple range of vision, correct astigmatism or both. These are included in our advanced packages. They include toric, multifocal, accommodating and Symfony technology.

**ADVANCED TESTING APPOINTMENT**

One benefit of our advanced packages is extra time with our cataract consultant and out specialty technicians. At this special appointment we will run tests using the best technology to better understand your eyes.
LATEST MEASUREMENT TECHNOLOGY

Our Advanced Refractive Laser Vision packages include some or all of the following technology tailored to your specific needs:

- Multiple Zeiss and Lenstar (Swiss) laser measurements of your eye length and curvature
- Screening Zeiss OCT test to detect subtle problems of your macula
- Screening Oculus Pentacam corneal map to detect aspherical problems of the cornea
- Zeiss and/or Cassini corneal topography to measure astigmatism axis
- Multiple confirmatory lens calculations based on measurements above (SRK-T, Barrett, ASCRS, others)

OTHER ADVANCED PACKAGE BENEFITS

- Laser enhancement (if necessary) after surgery
- Extended postoperative period of care (double that of standard surgery)
NORTHWEST EYE CATARACT SURGEONS

Stan Walker, M.D.  Timothy J. Ehlen, M.D.  Matthew R. Ramsey, M.D.  John S. Berestka, M.D.

Please contact our Cataract Consultant for more information at 763-416-7627