

# Frequently Asked Questions About Multifocal Intraocular Lens Implants

These are only a few of the questions we address during your consultation. We will perform a full examination as well as educate you on the lenses and alternatives. We will also address realistic expectations as well as how these choices fit into your lifestyle.

## **Does a physician need to be credentialed to perform multifocal implants?**

Presently physicians do go through a credentialing process with the lens companies.

## **If I previously had LASIK/PRK am I still a candidate for the multifocal lens?**

Possibly, depending on the amount of the original laser correction and the original visual outcome.

## **I do not have a cataract. Can I still have a multifocal lens?**

For patients who do not have a visually significant cataract, the lens can be removed and replaced with a multifocal lens. This procedure is known as a refractive lens exchange.

## **Will I develop a cataract if I have the multifocal implant?**

A cataract will not develop as the natural lens has already been removed. However some patients will develop an opacification of the lens capsule which may be treated as a separate procedure.

## **Does the multifocal lens treat astigmatism?**

No the lens corrects for near and distance vision. However, there are additional procedures that may reduce or eliminate the amount of astigmatism.

## **Are the results immediate?**

Although functional vision is usually obtained within a few days, it typically improves over time.

## **Will I still need to wear glasses after surgery?**

80-85% of patients choose not to wear glasses. Others may wear glasses for certain activities such as working on a computer or reading in low light conditions.

## **What are the benefits as well as side effects of a multifocal lens?**

The lens provides good distance and reading vision. The intermediate vision is acceptable but some patients find that they have to sit closer to the computer. A common side effect some patients experience is glare and halos at night while driving. This typically improves over time.

## **What are the alternatives to a multifocal implant?**

For a cataract patient, a mono-focal implant may provide good distance vision, but glasses will be needed for intermediate and reading vision. Another alternative is monovision implant lenses. One eye is corrected for near vision and the other for distance. The alternatives to refractive lens exchange include LASIK, Phakic intraocular implants, glasses or contact lenses.

## **Will my insurance company cover the procedure?**

- Insurance companies typically cover cataract surgery but will not cover the additional cost of the premium lens or the extended physician fees.
- Refractive Lens exchange is generally not a covered benefit. However our insurance department will be happy to contact your insurance company. In addition we offer interest free financing for both the cataract patient as well as the refractive patient.