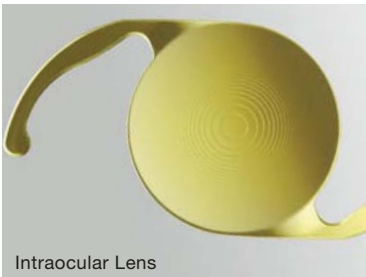


## Seek Treatment for Cataracts: Cataract Surgery Prep Basics



Mature Cataract



Intraocular Lens

### The Facts About Cataracts

Cataract surgery is one of the safest and more common surgeries performed in the U.S. each year.

Most cataract surgeries take about 15 to 30 minutes, and most patients experience no pain or discomfort.

### Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

#### Will I be asleep during cataract surgery?

Since this procedure does not take very long, it is unnecessary to put you completely asleep with general anesthesia. Instead, your surgeon will use a local/topical anesthetic drop to numb your eye and you will remain awake during the surgery.

#### Does cataract surgery hurt?

Thanks to numbing drops and medications to help you relax, this procedure involves minimal discomfort. Also, recovery time is generally very short.

#### Who performs the procedure, a surgeon or a technician?

Only ophthalmologists who have special training in eye surgery can perform cataract procedures. There will be a technician and nurse in the room to assist the ophthalmologist.

#### How long will the surgery last?

Most surgeries last between 15 and 30 minutes. Duration may depend on the type of procedure being performed.

To learn more about cataracts, treatment options, and life after cataracts visit

[www.CataractSurgery.com](http://www.CataractSurgery.com).

Find more printable documents like this one in the "Print & Go" boxes throughout the site.

This information is copyrighted and brought to you by [Alcon Laboratories, Inc.](http://www.alcon.com)  
This information is intended for U.S. audiences and is not to be interpreted as a substitute for medical advice from your doctor.

## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

### **I have cataracts in both eyes. Will the doctor treat both at the same time?**

Typically, doctors will perform surgery in the second eye two or three weeks after the first eye. All patients are different, so talk to your doctor about what is right for you.

### **How long will I be in the hospital?**

Cataract surgery is routinely an out-patient procedure. Patients commonly spend only a few hours at the hospital or surgery center, and are allowed to go home the very same day. How long before I can see after surgery?

Every patient and every eye is different, but some people see well almost immediately following surgery. Patients commonly see well enough to drive the day after surgery. Ask your doctor how quickly he or she expects you to recover.

## Cataract Statistics

More than 3 million cataract surgeries are performed in the U.S. each year.<sup>1</sup>

Cataracts surgery has an overall success rate of 97 percent or greater.<sup>2</sup>

About 95 percent of people who get standard intraocular lenses experience full restoration of their vision to its pre-cataract state.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> MedMarket Diligence, November 2006

<sup>2</sup> "The Aging Eye: A Special Health Report from Harvard Medical School," Ed. Fine, Laura C. M.D and Heier, Jeffrey S. M.D., copyright 2006, Harvard Health Publications, Boston, MA.

To learn more about cataracts, treatment options, and life after cataracts visit

[www.CataractSurgery.com](http://www.CataractSurgery.com).

Find more printable documents like this one in the "Print & Go" boxes throughout the site.

This information is copyrighted and brought to you by [Alcon Laboratories, Inc.](http://www.alcon.com)  
This information is intended for U.S. audiences and is not to be interpreted as a substitute for medical advice from your doctor.