

Intraocular Lens Implants

During cataract surgery, your surgeon will remove the cloudy lens and, in most cases, replace it with a permanent, artificial lens called an intraocular lens (IOL). An IOL is a clear, plastic lens that requires no care and becomes a permanent part of your eye.¹ You will not feel or see the IOL,¹ and there is no risk of your eye rejecting the new lens.²

Some people cannot have an IOL implanted. They may have another eye disease or have problems during surgery. For these patients, a soft contact lens or eyeglasses that provide high magnification may be suggested.¹

If you are scheduled to have an IOL implanted, your surgeon will take careful measurements of your eye before surgery. These measurements assist him/her in selecting the correct lens power. In other words, by controlling the power of your IOL implant, your surgeon can actually select a lens that helps correct any preexisting nearsightedness or farsightedness.^{3,4} In fact, new IOLs are being developed all the time to make surgery less complicated for the surgeon and lenses more helpful to the patient.⁵ New implants are now available that can potentially correct astigmatism,⁴ and IOLs are being developed that could help with correcting



presbyopia and block both ultraviolet and blue light rays that may be damaging to the eye.⁵

The power of your IOL will be selected to best improve your vision and reduce dependence on corrective eye wear after surgery.³ If you have questions about your IOL implant, talk with your doctor before surgery, and be sure he/she answers all of your questions before the procedure. You should feel comfortable with your surgeon and feel that all of your questions have been answered before undergoing surgery.

Sources:

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