# Your Prescription for a New Beginning

Now is the time to stop letting poor vision stand in between you and life's most meaningful moments. Surgeons at TLC Laser Eye Centers® specialize in the latest vision correction options to improve your eyesight.

The advanced procedures you'll find in this brochure have left millions of patients satisfied. Thank you for taking the time to learn more about them.

TLC is home to some of the Canada's most experienced eye surgeons. They use incredible technology and follow specific clinical protocols to give you the best possible results and maximum satisfaction.

For 20 years, TLC has been the place people go when safety and experience matter most.

 More than 7,000 doctors have trusted their eyes to the surgeons at TLC.



YOUR NEW BEGINNING

# Your Eye Doctor's Role in the TLC Team

Your eye doctor has partnered with TLC Laser Eye Centers because of its strong track record of safety, experience and patient satisfaction.

No one knows your eyes better than your eye doctor. When you have your vision corrected at TLC, your eye doctor and surgeon will work together to take care of you, both before and after your procedure.

This team-based approach, which TLC helped pioneer 20 years ago, leads to a more satisfying patient experience. This is just one of the ways TLC differs from others in the industry.

Laser vision correction isn't right for everyone. Finding out if you're a good candidate is as simple as a consultation at your local TLC center.

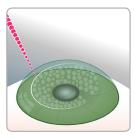
This appointment is free and comes with no obligation. Its purpose is to perform a number of specialized, painless tests that allow for a personalized treatment recommendation.

You can **schedule your free TLC consultation** by calling **877.852.2020** or visiting **TLCVision.com.** You can also ask your eye doctor to help you schedule your appointment today.

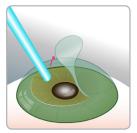
# YOUR EYE DOCTOR'S ROLE

LASIK and PRK are the most commonly performed laser vision correction procedures. Surgeons at TLC are some of the most experienced in the world, and they perform both LASIK and PRK. Your free consultation will determine which procedure is right for you.

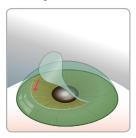
# Bladeless LASIK: Customized for you



1. An expert surgeon uses a laser to create a very thin flap of tissue on the outer layers of your cornea.



2. After lifting the flap, the surgeon then uses a laser, programmed with a unique map of your eye, to reshape your cornea.



**3.** Finally, your surgeon carefully lays the flap of the tissue back down to heal, like a bandage.

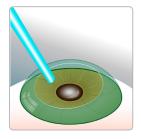


4. Many patients go home, take a long nap and wake to find their vision has noticeably improved. Vision keeps improving after the procedure.

# PRK: Customized for you



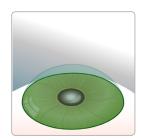
1. Your surgeon removes the outer layer of the cornea to expose an area for the laser to reshape. This tissue will grow back.



2. He then uses a laser, programmed with a unique map of your eye, to reshape your cornea.



3. Finally, your surgeon gives you prescription eye drops and a bandage contact lens to help your cornea heal.



**4.** Healing may take more time with PRK versus LASIK.

# LASER EYE SURGERY

## **About Presbyopia**

Presbyopia is a byproduct of the natural aging of the eyes that results in a need for reading glasses as we get older. The cause of presbyopia is a decreasing flexibility in the eye's natural lens as we age. As a result, it becomes harder for us to focus on near vision, which is why presbyopia is commonly referred to as "the need for reading glasses." Fortunately, there are many options, in addition to reading glasses, to correct presbyopia.

#### **Monovision**

Monovision may allow you to maintain your ability to read without glasses after you begin to experience presbyopia. Monovision LASIK is a compromise; to achieve better near vision, you have to give up some sharpness in your distance vision. During your laser vision correction consultation, you and your eye doctor can decide which choice is best for you.

# Corneal Inlay for Presbyopia

A corneal inlay can expand your range of clearer near and intermediate vision. It is smaller and thinner than a contact lens and weighs less than a grain of salt. The inlay restores near and intermediate vision by focusing light entering the eye. The inlay is gently implanted within the eye's outer layer, the cornea, during a procedure that takes less than 20 minutes.

## **Multifocal Implants**

An exciting development for cataract patients is that of intraocular lenses, which provide for close up and distance vision. These are called multifocal or bifocal implants. When combined with correction for astigmatism, these implanted lenses can give people back the vision they remember having when they were much younger.



 Presbyopia is the most common physiological change occuring in the adult eye.

**READING VISION OPTIONS** 

#### What is a Cataract?

A cataract is a clouding of the normally clear natural lens in your eye that develops as we age into our 60s or later. Gradually, cataracts restrict enough light that we notice reduced vision. Cataract surgery has undergone an amazing transformation in recent years, leaving patients with multiple options.

# **Cataract Surgery**

Similar to a smudged camera lens, cataracts obstruct the clarity of a patient's vision, from cloudiness that forms on the eye's natural lens. Through a small incision, the patient's clouded lens is removed and replaced with an intraocular lens (IOL). The incision is so small that stitches are usually not required. This outpatient procedure usually takes less than half an hour.

## **Laser Cataract Surgery**

Laser Cataract Surgery brings a new level of customization to cataract surgery, allowing each procedure to be specifically tailored to the uniqueness of a patient's eye and the preference of his or her surgeon. Adding a computer controlled laser to key steps of cataract surgery is the most technologically advanced option for cataract patients.

#### **Premium Lenses**

Premium lenses not only replace the cloudy lens (in cataract cases) but also provide added benefits, such as distance-vision correction or near-vision correction. Your cataract surgeon can provide you with an overview of what type of premium lenses fit your lifestyle and vision-correction needs

# Signs and symptoms of cataracts:

- Cloudy or blurred vision
- Difficulty seeing at night
- Seeing halos around lights
- Problems with glare
- Seeing double or multiple images in an eye with a cataract



#### Phakic IOL

Phakic IOLs (intraocular lenses) are an alternative to LASIK and PRK eye surgeries for correcting moderate to severe myopia (nearsightedness). In some cases, IOLs produce better and more predictable outcomes than laser refractive surgery. Phakic IOLs are clear, implantable lenses that are surgically placed inside the eye, without removing your natural lens. Phakic lenses enable light ot focus properly on the retina for clearer vision without corrective eyewear. Implantable lenses function like contact lenses to correct nearsightedness. The difference is that phakic IOLs work from within your eye instead of sitting on the surface.

## Refractive Lens Exchange (RLE)

Refractive Lens Exchange involves replacing the eye's natural lens with a special lens (called an IOL) that corrects refractive errors. The RLE is the same procedure as modern cataract surgery, but new technology has opened RLE to people with high degrees of nearsightedness, farsightedness and presbyopia especially when LASIK and PRK are not ideal.

#### **Keratoconus Treatment**

Keratoconus is a disease that causes progressive thinning of the cornea. As a result of this condition, the normal pressure from within the eye causes the cornea to bulge into a cone-like shape. Keratoconus can impair and distort vision and can lead to the need for a corneal transplant. It normally affects both eyes, though it typically progresses at different rates. In most people, keratoconus begins during their teen years and slowly worsens before stabilizing in their 30s or 40s.

#### Intacs®

Intacs are tiny rings made of plastic that are inserted into a narrow channel in the cornea created by a laser. Intacs can reduce nearsightedness and astigmatism in patients with keratoconus. Many people with keratoconus can delay or avoid a corneal transplant by getting Intacs. Placing Intacs in the cornea restores the natural dome shape of the cornea to improve vision. This short, painless outpatient procedure may make eyeglass and contact lens wear easier for some patients with keratoconus.

#### Corneal Cross Linking

Vision in patients with keratoconus is typically blurry, even with glasses. Corneal cross linking stiffens and bonds the fibers in the cornea with the use of ultraviolet light. This prevents corneal bulging.

Corneal cross linking prevents keratoconus from getting worse. If teamed with corneal ring inserts and laser shaping of the cornea, corneal linking can lead to a dramatic improvement without the need for a corneal transplant.

# Frequently Asked Questions

Your eye doctor and the staff at TLC are eager to answer your questions as you consider this life-changing experience. Here are a few of the most frequently asked questions we hear about laser vision correction:



## 1. How Much Does it Cost?

Providers such as TLC make your procedure affordable by offering financing plans with attractive interest rates and low monthly payments.





# 2. Is Eye Surgery Safe?

Yes, and especially at TLC. As one of Canada's most experienced vision correction providers, TLC helps you rest easy knowing your surgeon and his staff will use up-to-date technology and follow detailed clinical protocols to help ensure great results. Although no surgical procedure is risk-free, we've spent 20 years creating processes and systems to prevent complications. It's no wonder more than 7,000 doctors have trusted their own eyes to the expert surgeons at TLC.



### 3. Am I a Good Candidate?

The only way to know for sure is to complete your free, no-obligation consultation at your local TLC center. TLC can recommend the safest procedure for you based on your unique eyes. You may schedule this appointment by calling **877.852.2020**, visiting **TLCVision.com** or talking to your eye doctor today.



# 4. What Happens If My Eyes Change?

Only TLC offers LASIK and PRK patients the TLC Lifetime Commitment® in the unlikely event an enhancement is needed down the road as your eyes change. This commitment provides qualified patients no-charge, same-technology enhancements for life. The TLC Lifetime Commitment is yours as long as you return to your eye doctor for regular annual eye exams following your procedure.

†60 month financing, starting at 8.9% interest, and subject to credit approval. Available only at participating TLC locations.