



TAKE \$400* OFF LASIK

GO SEE

Change your life
through LASIK.

TLC
Laser Eye Centers®

[CLICK HERE](#)[LASIK 101](#)[Eye Health & Wellness](#)[Is LASIK Right For Me?](#)[Cost of LASIK](#)[Life After LASIK](#)

Laser Eye Surgery Across Cultures

July 12, 2013



0



0



0



0

Laser eye surgery has a home in North America, but its origins, like those of many Americans, have roots across the sea. The global surgical community has long been on the frontier of laser eye surgery. Spaniard José Barraquer developed the microkeratome, a blade used in certain LASIK procedures, in the 1940s and 1950s. Russian eye doctor Svyatoslav Fyodorov pioneered a non-laser procedure, radial keratotomy (RK), in the 1970s, a decade before it came to North America.

REQUEST A TLC LASIK INFO KIT

To learn more about LASIK and TLC Laser Eye Centers, complete the form to receive an info kit.



By entering my email address, I consent to receive email information, offers and promotions from TLC. I understand I can withdraw my consent at any time.

In 1988, two Russian eye doctors used a home-made laser to cut a flap in a cornea and reshape the tissue. Two years after the Russians' endeavor, Greek eye doctor Ioannis Pallikaris performed the first official laser eye surgery, based off a refinement of PRK, while using a variation of Barraquer's microkeratome blade.

Laser eye surgery earns approval

LASIK was eventually approved in the United States in 1999. Another laser eye surgery, PRK, had been approved a few years earlier. In Germany, within two years of the 2002 invention of Bladeless LASIK, 95 percent of surgeons responsible for 80 percent of the country's laser eye surgeries had installed Bladeless LASIK technology. Today Europe continues innovating in laser eye surgery.

Countries once slow to warm to laser eye surgery are catching up. Asian and European laser eye surgeons are increasingly adopting new technologies. You can often look to North America and Europe to see what South Korean surgeons will be using in several years. Wavefront analysis, for instance, which customizes laser eye surgery to each patient, is gaining traction in South Korea after Western eye doctors lauded the benefits of Custom LASIK.

In Japan, laser eye surgeons perform 80,000 laser eye surgeries a year, a number steadily increasing. Surgeons in England, Italy and Germany report rising interest in surgery, too.

Nearby in Sweden, eye doctors who had remained skeptical of LASIK throughout the 1990s have now embraced it. Their initial concerns, which were that LASIK was harder to perform and less safe than its predecessor, PRK, have lifted since laser technology and success rates improved dramatically in the 21st century. Today PRK and LASIK are commonly performed in Europe.

Laser eye surgery, looking forward

As for North America, Canadian laser eye surgeons usually have access to new technology a bit faster than those in the United States, mainly due to differences in how each government handles the approval of medical devices. Canadian eye surgeons, for example, started performing PRK and LASIK a few years before their counterparts in the United States.

Today, the global economy is improving, and more young adults who have grown up alongside advancements in laser eye surgery are able to afford their own LASIK surgeries. They join a global community of more than 95 percent of patients who report satisfaction after laser eye surgery, making them part of a cross-cultural patient society.



FIND A LASIK PROVIDER NEAR YOU

FIND A LASIK PROVIDER NEAR YOU

Enter your Zip / Postal Code to begin your search.

enter your zip / postal code

Search

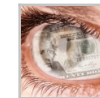
POPULAR

LATEST



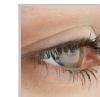
LASIK Eye Surgery Cost (the Elephant in the Eye Exam Room)

The cost of LASIK in North America varies drastically, from less th...



How Much Is LASIK?

A common question about laser eye surgery is simply, "How much is...



LASIK vs. PRK: What is the Difference?

Photo refractive keratectomy (PRK) is a type of laser eye surgery d...



When is Someone Too Young or Too Old to Have LASIK?

Age marks plenty of milestones: driving, voting, working and retiri...



How Much Is LASIK With Insurance?

One of the first questions many ask while considering LASIK is "H...

VIDEOS



Learn About LASIK



LASIK for Astigmatism



START HERE:

enter zip / postal code

SEND ►

How To Choose A LASIK Provider

The Difference Between LASIK
and PRK



LASIK Recovery



PRK And Recovery

[View all videos ►](#)

GO SEE

Change your life through LASIK.

**TAKE \$400*
OFF LASIK**

TLC
Laser Eye Centers®

CLICK HERE

COPYRIGHT© 2015 LASIK.COM



PRIVACY POLICY



TERMS AND CONDITIONS



SITE MAP

This website is sponsored by Health Care Marketing Services, LLC, a marketing company under the common ownership of The LASIK Vision Institute, LLC and TLC Vision Centers. This disclosure is in accordance with the Federal Trade Commission's 16 CFR, Part 255.