

ACCOMMODATIVE INTRAOCULAR LENSES

Crystalens is the first intraocular lens that provides accommodation, that is the ability to continuously adjust to focus on things within the patients near, intermediate and distant fields of vision. This enables the patient to see well at distance, at near and all distances in between. Almost like getting your 20 year old eyes again. Accommodative Intraocular Lenses connect the patient continuously and effortlessly to everything in their day—no matter what the distance is—it gives them a 20/life.

Presbyopia occurs because the natural lens in the eye hardens and thickens with age—thus making it difficult to focus. At first, the loss of accommodation affects the ability to see near images clearly. Over time it also impacts the ability to see intermediate images, distant images and all images in-between.

98.4% of patients who have had the Crystalens implanted in both eyes are fine tuned if necessary by Lasik. These patients could see well enough without glasses to be able to read print the size of the NYSE quotes in the newspaper, or directions on a bottle of children's pain reliever. 100% could see intermediate 24" to 30", the distance for most of life's daily activities.

WHAT TO EXPECT AFTER CRYSTALENS IMPLANTATION

Distance vision will usually be very good within a day or two after surgery. However, the intermediate and near vision may be somewhat blurred at first. Drops applied after surgery dilate the pupil and take 7 to 14 days for the effects to wear off. The patient may see halos and may need to wear reading glasses to help them read during this time. After two weeks the intermediate vision starts to improve as well as the near vision. The patient needs to attempt to read daily in order to strengthen the focusing muscles. It may take several months for the eyes to reach their full focusing potential. The more the patient tries to read without reading glasses, the quicker they will be able to read without them. The vision can continue to improve for up to 12 months.

WHO IS A CANDIDATE FOR CRYSTALENS/ACCOMMODATING INTRAOCULAR LENSES?

Candidates are the same parameters as those of refractive lensectomy, plus all presbyopes regardless of the amount of farsightedness they may have. Talk to your patient counselor or surgeon to determine your candidacy for this procedure.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

As with any surgery there are risks. These can include; retinal detachment (1/400 with 98% successfully repaired); retinal macular swelling (1/400-98%

successfully treated with medications; infection (1/1000-can result in substantial loss of sight). Additionally, inaccurate power of the lens may necessitate exchange of the lens and capsular clouding may necessitate a laser treatment to clear the clouding.