

REFRACTIVE LENSECTOMY/REFRACTIVE LENS EXCHANGE/INTRAOCULAR LENS IMPLANT

WHAT IS REFRACTIVE LENSECTOMY?

Refractive lensectomy or refractive lens exchange, is much like cataract surgery. (More than 2.7 million cataract surgeries are performed each year in the U.S.) Refractive lensectomy is a procedure that exchanges the natural lens in your eye with an intraocular lens implant, a lens typically made of a soft material such as a silicone, acrylic or soft contact lens material. It is used to reduce or completely eliminate the dependence on glasses or contact lenses.

WHY REFRACTIVE LENSECTOMY?

Refractive lensectomy is the procedure of choice for patients with significant farsightedness or patients with farsightedness or nearsightedness with early cataracts. Your patient counselor, or surgeon will advise you if this procedure is for you. Patients are not candidates for hyperopic Lasik if the calculated post operative k is $> 49.00D$. Calculated post op $K = \text{pre operative average } K + \text{pre operative spherical equivalent}$. Eyes with post operative K's $> 49.00D$ are more likely to have a decrease in quality of vision and increased incidence of a dry eye post operatively. Remember that a $+2.0D$ hyperope who wishes to have monovision with a 2D add is a 4D hyperope.

Dr. Tooma believes prebyopic patients with severe Sicca/Blepharitis with calculated post operative $K > 49.00D$ or elderly patients with refractive errors $> +4.00D$ are better candidates for refractive lensectomy.

WHAT TO EXPECT AS A PATIENT

Refractive lensectomy is performed in an outpatient surgical facility. One eye at a time, separated by a minimum of one month before the second eye is done, is the recommended procedure. Lasik can be utilized to fine-tune the outcome. Lasik is typically performed approximately 3 months after the refractive lensectomy.

The pre operative and post operative care, as well as the surgery experience, is very much like Lasik surgery.

WHY DOES IT COST MORE?

Our cost for the operating room, as well as the intraocular lens implant are substantial.

WHO IS A CANDIDATE?

Hyperopic presbyopes with farsightedness more than +4.00 diopters. Hyperopes with dry eyes and blepharitis and hyperopes with calculated post Lasik keratometry of more than 49 diopters. Again, this is a procedure that your doctor or patient counselor can advise if appropriate for your particular case.