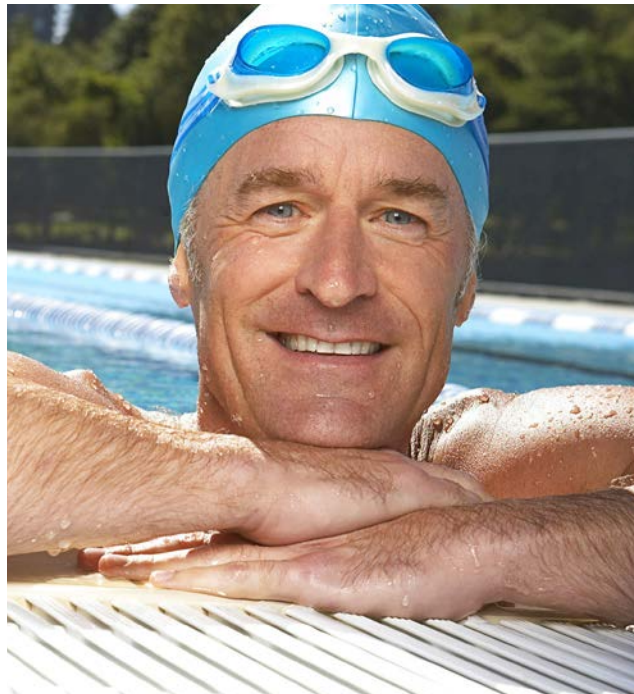


PINELLAS COUNTY CATARACT GUIDE



GULFCOAST
EYE CARE

ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY LEADING TO BETTER QUALITY VISION & LIFESTYLE

CHANGES IN YOUR VISION

If you are over 55 and have noticed a decrease in your vision, you may be suffering from cataracts. Many patients are surprised to know that cataracts are quite common – in fact, more than 20.5 million Americans have cataracts.

Cataract surgery in Pinellas County has become safer, with the potential for exceptional visual results, thanks to amazing advancements in cataract technology.

This guide will explain cataracts and treatment options to help you make an educated and informed decision when considering cataract surgery in Pinellas County.





What are Symptoms of Cataracts?

Cataracts usually develop slowly and painlessly over time – in fact, in early stages, symptoms may be so mild that you may not even realize your vision is changing. However, as cataracts become more dense, you will experience one or more of the following symptoms:

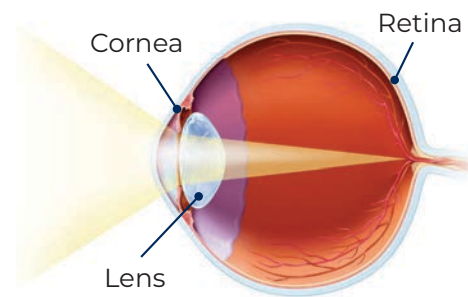
- Blurry or cloudy vision
- Glasses prescription changes often
- Colors appear dull and washed out
- Difficulty reading in low light
- Poor night vision
- Halos or glare around lights



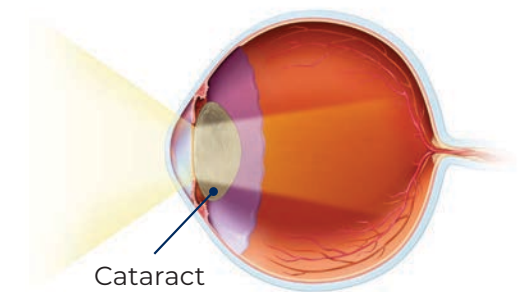
What is a Cataract?



Cataracts are typically caused by the natural aging process that occurs inside of the eye. It's a gradual clouding of the eye's clear, natural lens that can, over time, make your vision less sharp.



Normal Vision



Vision with Cataract

Know When It's Time for Cataract Surgery

If left untreated, cataracts will eventually begin to interfere with normal, everyday activities. The time to have cataract surgery is when your quality of life has been impacted by poor vision. For many patients, this includes difficulty driving at night, reading or other hobbies. With today's safer, more precise technology, there's never been a better time to have cataract surgery. There is no need to suffer with cataracts any longer!



20.5 MILLION
AMERICANS HAVE CATARACTS



More than half of all Americans develop cataracts by age 80



Cataract surgery has an overall **success rate of over 98%**



CATARACT SURGERY

Step-By-Step

With modern cataract surgery, there are no injections, no stitches. You may be given mild medication to relax you, and you'll be awake and comfortable. Recovery is quick – you may resume most activities the next day.



Step One

Through a micro-incision, your surgeon will break up and gently remove the cloudy, cataract-affected lens.



Step Two

A new flexible lens implant is gently inserted into the eye, to replace your natural cloudy lens.



Step Three

With the cataract removed, and the new lens in place, light can once again travel clearly to the back of your eye, & focus properly, allowing you to see more clearly.



MORE OPTIONS THAN EVER BEFORE!

Bring Your Life Back Into Focus

Cataract surgery has undergone exciting technological advancements over the years, and there are now many options available to renew your vision. Today's cataract surgery has the potential to not only eliminate your cataracts, but may also allow you to regain your youthful lifestyle with little to no dependence on glasses. For patients wanting to rid themselves of cataracts, while also maintaining more visual independence, Advanced Lifestyle Lenses may be a great solution.

There are now more options available than ever before with Lifestyle lenses.

Patients now have the option to enjoy more freedom from glasses and contacts after their cataract procedure. Many patients are excited to learn that they can reduce, and even eliminate, the need for glasses and contacts, allowing them to enjoy life to its fullest. When you have a comprehensive eye examination with your doctor, they will discuss with you these options and help you determine which is best for your vision and your lifestyle.

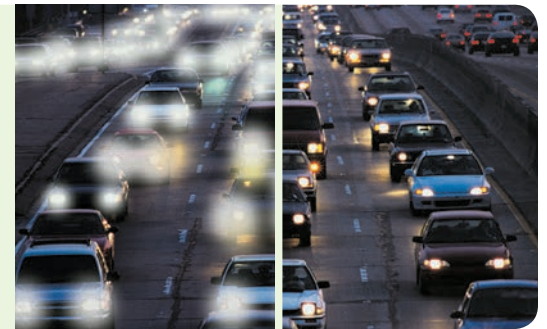
Multifocal Correction

- Best opportunity to see clearly most of the day near, intermediate and distance.
- May need readers for very fine print.



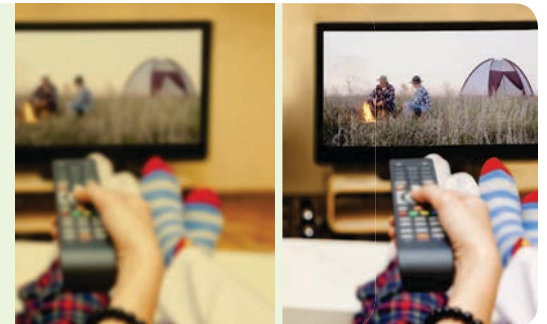
Astigmatism Correction

- Patients with moderate to significant astigmatism will be able to see distance clearly without glasses. For some it will be for the first time in decades!
- May need readers for near vision.



Standard Correction

- Most likely, patients will require glasses for most activities.





CHOOSING A CATARACT SURGEON

While cataract surgery is common and necessary, it is a medical procedure that requires comprehensive and individualized treatment for optimal results. The center you choose for your procedure should be the practice that makes you feel confident and comfortable – confident in their surgeon and confident in their results.

Medicare and My Vision

You'll be happy to hear that cataract surgery costs are considered reimbursable expenses by both Medicare and private insurances plans, in most instances. Beyond any co-payments and deductibles, the cost of surgery, facility fees, surgeon cost, and necessary follow-up care are covered and premium lifestyle lenses may even be partially covered.

For any costs that may not be covered, Gulfcoast Eye Care offers a variety of financing plans to make lifestyle vision choices affordable for almost any budget.

If you are considering a premium lifestyle lens, the cataract surgeon you choose should offer a variety of options, as not every lens is ideal for every patient. The surgeon should be experienced and specifically qualified to perform the type of procedure needed for a good visual outcome.

Furthermore, the center should take time to talk with you about your lifestyle, visual goals and expectations to ensure you receive optimal results.

We strongly believe you will find choosing Gulfcoast Eye Care to be a choice you can make with confidence – a choice you can truly trust your eyes to. As you consider any type of vision correction, you can be confident in our commitment to be there every step of the

way to make the process comfortable, and above all, successful. Not only will you have personalized care by Dr. Manning, but he is also the most experienced refractive surgeon in Pinellas County - that's peace of mind.

Take the next step to regaining your vision!

If you have been living with fading vision that is affecting your lifestyle, don't wait a moment longer. **Call Gulfcoast Eye Care today at (727) 895-2020 to schedule your cataract exam.** Our cataract team and Dr. Manning himself will examine your eyes for cataracts and also talk to you about your lifestyle and vision options.



"Dr Manning and his entire team were outstanding and professional. I had cataract surgery on both eyes and used the latest Symphony lens replacement. The surgery was painless, and the recuperation time was very short. I was very satisfied and would highly recommend Dr. Manning and have done so already. Good luck with your vision... mine is now 20/20 without my glasses... after wearing specs for 54 years!"



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CALL TO SCHEDULE YOUR CATARACT EXAM TODAY!