

Your Eye Care is Our Number One Concern

At TLC Eyecare and Laser Centers, we are committed to providing premier eye care service. Our state-of-the-art diagnostic equipment allows early diagnosis of common eye problems such as cataract, glaucoma, macular degeneration, and diabetic retinopathy, often before symptoms occur. Our board-certified ophthalmologists and optometrists use the newest technologies and treatments available in the United States today, allowing us to treat eye ailments safely and effectively.

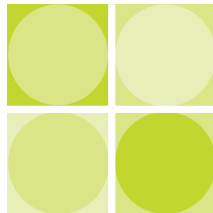
Offering State-of-the-Art Eye Care to Our Patients

Vision is one of the most important of the five senses, and healthy eyes are necessary for good vision. Eye problems can occur at any age, but the chance for developing them increases as we age. Vision problems can affect a person's overall health, causing disability, stress, and a decreased quality of life.

Early detection of eye problems is vital for maintaining healthy eyes. Diagnosing an eye disease in its early stages minimizes its damage and greatly affects the success of treatment. Because many eye ailments have no symptoms until their advanced stages, regular and thorough eye exams with our affiliate network of optometrists are necessary throughout your lifetime to help maintain healthy eyes.

We Make it Easy for You To Maintain Healthy Eyes

With several centers located throughout Michigan and Ohio, our patients enjoy easy access to quality eye care whenever and wherever they need it. Because TLC Eyecare and Laser Centers have doctors on call twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, our patients have immediate access to treatment for unforeseen eye injuries and accidents.



877.TLC.TIME (877.852.8463)
www.tlceyecare.com

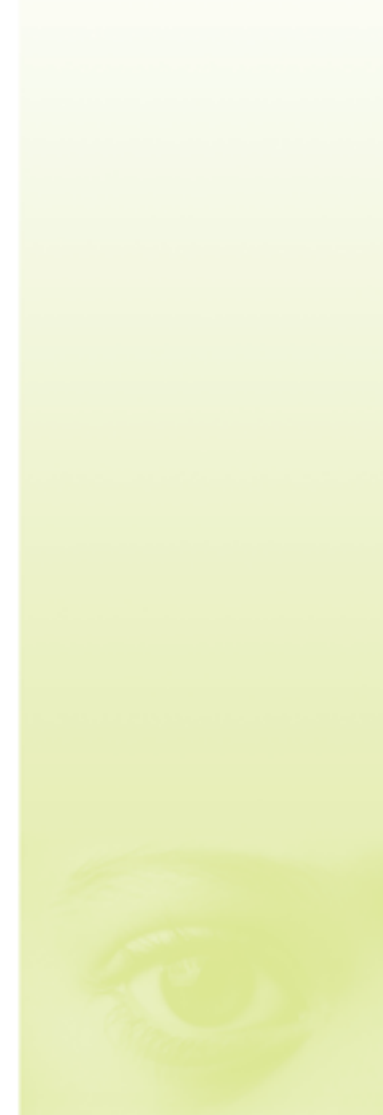
Locations Include:

Adrian, Ann Arbor, Battle Creek, Bellevue,
 Big Rapids, Bryan, Chelsea, Farmington Hills,
 Jackson, Kalamazoo, Lansing, Sandusky,
 Toledo



TLC
 EYECARE & LASER CENTERS

Cataracts



TLC
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**Take a
 Closer
 Look®**

877.852.8463



What is a cataract?

A cataract is a clouding of the natural lens of the eye. Because it is cloudy, the lens cannot focus the way it should and vision is blurred.

Although cataracts are the most common cause of impaired vision, they are highly treatable. Many people consider poor vision an inevitable part of aging, but cataract surgery is a simple, relatively painless procedure to regain vision. In the United States alone, 2 million cataract operations are performed each year, and are very successful in restoring vision.

What causes cataracts?

For most people, cataracts are a natural result of aging and usually appear in people age 60 and older. Cataracts can also be caused by injury, steroid use, smoking, diabetes, or excessive exposure to sunlight. Cataracts are not caused by eye strain or bad lighting.

What are the symptoms of a cataract?

- Halos around lights
- Difficulty driving at night or in bright sunlight
- Blurry or hazy vision
- Trouble reading fine print
- Colors becoming faded or “washed out”

How are cataracts diagnosed?

Cataracts can only be diagnosed during a comprehensive dilated eye examination. A variety of vision tests will be performed:

- A visual acuity test using the letter eye chart to determine vision at various distances
- An examination of the lens and retina of the eye using eye drops which will dilate your pupils
- A tonometry test to measure the fluid pressure within the eye

These tests and others are used to measure vision loss, night vision, peripheral vision, and sensitivity to glare. The eye doctor uses the results of these tests to determine whether you have a cataract and to insure that the remainder of the eye is healthy.

How are cataracts treated?

Eyesight is usually not significantly impaired when cataracts first begin. In the early stages of cataract formation, simply prescribing stronger eyeglasses or increasing room lighting can improve vision. However, when cataracts cause vision loss which cannot be improved by other means, or their presence prevents the diagnosis of other eye diseases, the cataracts should be surgically removed. The cataract removal procedure, combined with intraocular lens implant surgery, is a very common, safe and effective surgical procedure.

In fact, cataract surgery is the most widely performed non-elective surgical procedure in the world.

During surgery, the surgeon will remove your clouded lens, and in most cases replace it with a clear, plastic intraocular lens (IOL).

What is intraocular lens implant surgery?

Intraocular lens implant surgery is an outpatient procedure performed using the most advanced methods available today. The procedure is painless and involves no stitches, patches, or injections. This suture-less, self-sealing cataract removal method was developed by our own surgeon Paul H. Ernest, MD.

Surgery day usually requires up to four hours of time from start to finish. Your eye will be treated with anesthetic prior to the procedure so you'll feel no discomfort. A tiny incision will be made to allow the gentle breaking up and removing of the cloudy lens from the eye. Once the lens is removed a new

intraocular lens (IOL) is implanted through the small incision and set in its permanent position.

Intraocular lenses have been in use for over 50 years and today are available in all kinds of shapes, sizes and materials. Until recently, patients undergoing lens implant surgery received a monofocal, or single focus IOL. Monofocal IOLs generally provide excellent distance vision while most patients still need bifocals or reading glasses for near vision.

Today, however, multifocal IOLs can provide patients with a full range of vision at a variety of distances. This exciting new lens advancement gives patients the possibility of life without glasses or contacts. Patients have options in multifocal IOLs, discuss with your surgeon which one is right for you and your lifestyle.

What is to be expected after surgery?

Most patients can resume all normal activities after surgery. You can do “whatever you can see to do”. Since cataract surgery is an outpatient procedure; recovery time is minimal.

How do I know if surgery is right for me?

Have a complete eye examination with your eye doctor to find out if you are a good candidate for cataract surgery, and which intraocular lens is best for you. As with any surgical procedure there are inherent risks and your results cannot be guaranteed. Your doctor will provide you with additional information about benefits, risks, complications and costs.

