

## 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.

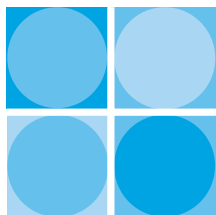
## Offering State-of-the-Art Eye Care to Our Patients

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 vision 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](http://www.tlceyecare.com)**

*Locations Include:*

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



**TLC**  
EYECARE & LASER CENTERS

# Vitrectomy Surgery



**Take a Closer Look<sup>®</sup>**

**877.852.8463**

# Vitreotomy Surgery

## What is vitrectomy?

Vitreotomy is a type of eye surgery where the clear gel (vitreous) is removed from within the eye. The vitreous fluid fills the middle of the eye and helps hold its shape. Vitrectomy may be done because the vitreous has blood and scar tissue in it which is blocking your vision. A surgeon removes the vitreous and then replaces the cloudy gel with an air bubble, gas bubble, or a special fluid.

This gas mixture will be put in the eye in order to hold the retina in place until fluid is replaced naturally by the body's own fluid. Until this happens it is frequently necessary for the patient to remain in a face-down position. In some cases if remaining face-down is unfeasible a silicone oil or vitreous substitute may be used. However, these need to be removed in a second operation.

## When would you need a vitrectomy?

**Vitreotomy surgery is used to treat the following eye problems:**

- diabetic retinopathy, where there is bleeding and scar tissue
- retinal detachment
- severe eye injury
- macular pucker, wrinkling of the retina
- macular hole, partial loss of vision for fine detail
- some problems after cataract surgery

## How does vitrectomy improve vision?

Vitreotomy surgery removes any blood or debris (from infection or inflammation), or a foreign object (as a result of an injury) that may be blocking or blurring light as it focuses on the retina. Vitrectomy removes scar tissue that can displace, wrinkle or tear the retina. Vision is poor if the retina is not in its normal position.

## What should I expect of the vitrectomy surgery?

The surgery is usually performed on an out-patient basis or combined with an overnight stay in the hospital. The length of the operation varies from one to several hours, depending on your condition. In certain situations, your ophthalmologist may do another surgical procedure at the same time, such as repairing a detached retina or removing a cataract. Before the operation, drops will be put in the eye to dilate the pupil. In order to minimize the risk of infection, antibiotic drops will also be used following the surgery. Your ophthalmologist will decide whether local or general anesthesia is best for you.

**In order to get the best possible vision for you, your ophthalmologist will do one or more of the following:**

- remove all cloudy vitreous
- remove any scar tissue present, attempting to return the retina to its normal position
- treat the eye with a laser to reduce future bleeding or to fix a tear in the retina
- place an air or gas bubble in the eye to help the retina remain in its proper position (the bubble will slowly disappear on its own)
- inject a special fluid that is later removed from the eye

## What is expected during recovery?

For most people, activity is slowed down for a few days following surgery. Vision improvement could take several weeks to a few months, so do not be alarmed by blurry vision. If a gas bubble has been injected into the eye, it will hinder normal focusing until it dissolves. This bubble will dissolve on its own within a few weeks. Your ophthalmologist may recommend that you keep your head in special positions for a certain time period, this is to keep the bubble in the correct location until it is dissolved. The majority of people return to work and a normal lifestyle within one to four weeks following the operation.