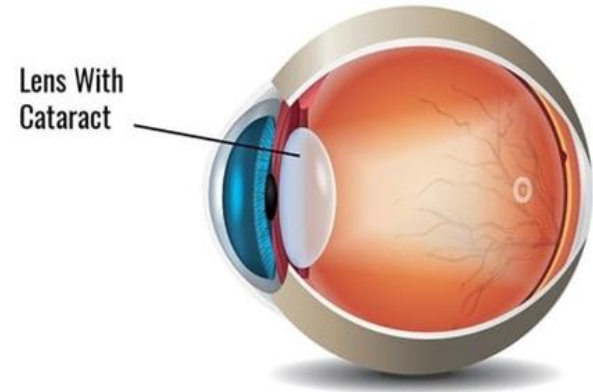
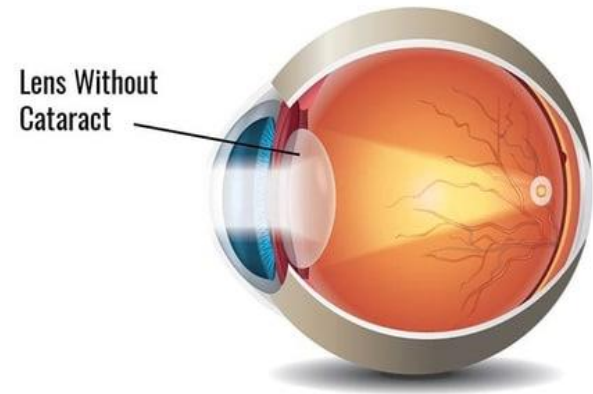


WHAT IS A CATARACT?

Inside our eyes, we have a natural lens (much like a camera). When we look at something, light rays travel into our eye through the pupil and are focused through the lens onto the retina, a layer of light-sensitive cells at the back of the eye.

As we age, the proteins in the lens start to break down. A cataract forms as the proteins begin to clump together. This causes the lens to become cloudy and changes the way light enters the eye. This makes things look blurry, hazy or less colorful.

When these changes begin to interfere with how you perform or enjoy everyday activities, your ophthalmologist can help you determine if it is time to consider cataract surgery.





YOUR OHIP COVERAGE

Standard cataract surgery is the only cataract solution that is covered by OHIP. Your surgeon provides access to standard cataract surgery in the hospital where he/she has operating privileges.

After cataract surgery, you will require reading glasses. If you have astigmatism which was previously corrected with prescription glasses, you may still benefit from prescription glasses *after* surgery to help best focus the light entering your eye.

If you are over 65, a visit to an optometrist is also covered by OHIP and can help you determine which optical solutions give you your best vision *after* surgery.

CATARACT SURGERY

The only way to permanently treat cataract is with cataract surgery. During cataract surgery, the eye's cloudy natural lens is removed and replaced with an artificial intraocular lens implant. The intraocular lens implant (IOL) restores the eye's ability to focus light.

The aim of standard cataract surgery is to restore functional **distance** vision (beyond 1 m).

OHIP covers a spherical monofocal IOL to restore functional distance vision. Spherical IOLs are designed with a uniform curvature across the surface of the lens. For this reason, spherical IOLs are unable to help correct astigmatism (variations in the curvature of your eye).



YOUR NEXT APPOINTMENT

At your next visit, we will perform diagnostic tests to measure your eye. The data collected from these tests allows your surgeon determine which intraocular lens to implant during for your surgery.

Wait times do vary for standard cataract surgery in hospital. You will be placed on the waitlist for cataract surgery. We will contact you when a date becomes available for your procedure.

We will also provide you with a printed guide with important surgical instructions.

We recommend that you set aside 30-45 minutes for this visit. You may choose one person to accompany you to your appointment.





WATCH OUR VIDEO GUIDE !

Our video guide is an **exclusive educational tool** designed for patients of CITYEDGE VISION CENTRE and provides the most complete information about the surgical options available to you, what to expect before and after surgery, and answers many frequently asked questions. www.cityedge.ca/video

ADVANCED SOLUTIONS

Additional cataract solutions may be available to you as a patient of CITYEDGE VISION CENTRE, however these options are not covered by OHIP.

These solutions included advanced IOLs which can help to reduce or eliminate your dependence on glasses and correct for astigmatism with results that are more predictable and accurate than standard cataract surgery. Advanced IOLs are designed to work with the unique curvature of your eye and provide high quality results.

If you are interested in learning more about these options, we can provide you with additional information upon request.

