



TRUSTED LASIK SURGEONS™

www.TrustedLASIKSurgeons.com

YOUR FIRST CONSULTATION WITH A TRUSTED LASIK SURGEON

Objectives of Your First Consultation. During your first consultation you can expect to accomplish the following:

1. Read a pamphlet and perhaps view a video of the basic procedures available to correct your vision. The basic procedures include the following:

- LASIK,
- PRK,
- Phakic Implants,
- Clear Lensectomy
- RLE (Refractive Lensectomy) or CLE (Clear Lens Lensectomy)
- CK (Conductive Keratoplasty)
- Toric Implants
- Limbal Relaxing Incisions or Arcuate Incisions

2. Discuss your expectations with the surgeon and his staff to make sure you are realistic about what can be accomplished with LASIK and other vision correction surgeries. You should also be informed of the likelihood of eliminating glasses based on the amount of your correction (prescription) and astigmatism.

3. Discuss possible side effects, such as glare and halos, minor complications such as slipped flaps, wrinkled flaps, and very rare but potentially more serious complications like infection or inflammation.

4. Discuss the various fees for the different procedures, what the fee includes in terms of follow-up visits, possible additional touch-up surgery, and financing options that may be available.



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Do You Currently Wear Glasses or Contact Lenses?

If you wear glasses and not contact lenses:

If you wear glasses and your prescription is determined to be stable, your eyes may be dilated on your first visit. This will determine your “true” glasses prescription and allow the doctor to examine your retina to make sure it is healthy. If all these tests are normal and you are deemed to be a good candidate for the surgery, you could actually schedule the surgery after only one visit.

If you wear contact lenses:

Contact lenses often cause some distortion of the corneal surface. This can interfere with an accurate prescription, which is crucial to obtain a good result from the surgery. You will have to stop wearing the contact lenses for at least a week for soft lenses and often two weeks or longer for hard contact lenses. Your prescription will be evaluated after discontinuing the contact lenses until your prescription becomes stable. Once your prescription is stable, then your eyes will be dilated to determine your true prescription and to make sure your retina is healthy. Only then will you be ready for possible LASIK or another laser eye procedure and you could consider scheduling the surgery.

What Can You Expect at Your First Consultation? Your initial screening examination will typically include the following tests:

1. Your visual acuity (or how clearly you see near and far) is measured with and without your glasses. If your glasses are out of date, your possible new prescription will be demonstrated to see how well you can see with the best possible glasses and to determine how strong your prescription is, whether you are near or far sighted, and how much astigmatism you have.
2. A map is taken of the surface of your cornea (topography) to measure the curvature and shape of your cornea. This will show your astigmatism and determine if there is any abnormality in the shape of your cornea (such as keratoconus) that could increase the risk of surgery.
3. Your pupils will be measured to determine if they are unusually large at night. This can at times increase the risk of night vision problems such as halos and glare.
4. The thickness of your cornea will be measured (pachymetry) to make sure your cornea is thick enough to safely perform LASIK.



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5. Your dominant eye will be identified. This is important if you choose to have a mono-vision correction where one eye is corrected for better distance vision and the other for better reading vision. This is most often considered in patients over the age of 40 who require a separate reading glass prescription.
6. A microscope (slit lamp) is used to examine the front of your eye to make sure your cornea is normal and that you do not have cataracts.

Questions You Should Ask Your Doctor

Does the LASIK fee include touch up surgery if necessary?

If you require a “touch up” surgery (enhancement) during the first year after your surgery, the surgeon will typically not charge a surgical fee. There is often a charge for the use of the laser equipment for an additional surgery but this fee is usually minimal, often around \$150 to \$200. Ask the staff to clarify this policy so there are no surprises.

How experienced is the surgeon?

All of the surgeons listed at www.TrustedLASIKSurgeons.com have performed at least 1000 procedures (in smaller cities) and 2000 (in larger cities) laser vision procedures and have been performing refractive surgery for several years. Many of the surgeons listed in the Trusted LASIK Surgeons network have been involved in FDA studies, have published research papers in national ophthalmology journals, have faculty appointments at universities, or have given presentations on refractive surgery at meetings of refractive eye surgeons.

What type of Laser will be used on my eyes?

The eye doctors listed at Trusted LASIK Surgeons only use FDA approved lasers, which include lasers manufactured by Visx, Alcon, Bausch and Lomb, Nidek and Intralase.

Will I need reading glasses after my surgery?

If both of your eyes are corrected for distance vision, you will require reading glasses at some time in your early forties. If you are already 40 years old or older, you can consider the mono-vision option where one eye is corrected for better distance vision and the other eye is corrected for reading vision. This can be simulated in the office with glasses or contact lenses to see if you think you can adjust to this type of correction. With contact lenses, the lenses can be inserted in your eyes and you can try them for several hours to see if you are



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comfortable with this option. Most patients, especially women, can make this adjustment and are very satisfied with mono-vision.

Custom LASIK (“Wavefront”) versus Conventional LASIK?

Your surgeon can help you decide about custom versus conventional LASIK. You will have a “wavefront” examination, which will measure your prescription and the “aberrations” in your visual system. The pre-op aberration measurements along with the pupil size and the amount of your correction will determine how much benefit you may obtain from a wavefront based custom procedure compared to a conventional surgery which is based only on your refraction.

*****Special Bonus Tip*** Be Sure to Check with Your LASIK Surgeon to See if You Might Be a Good Candidate for Monovision.**

Monovision is the purposeful adjustment of one eye for near vision and the other eye for distance. If your LASIK surgeon determines you have a low refractive error of myopia (nearsightedness) that is in the range of -1 diopter to -2.5 diopters, you may be a candidate for monovision. If your eye surgeon determines you are a good candidate for monovision, your surgeon may perform LASIK or another laser vision procedure on the dominant eye first. If you are satisfied with the results, then the other (non-dominant) eye is left alone, and as an added bonus, you have saved yourself the cost of an operation on that eye.

Additional Special Reports Available from Trusted LASIK Surgeons:

How Do You See?

This free informational report provides a guide to how clearly you see and what procedures are available to correct any problems you have with your vision.

LASIK & Other Refractive Surgical Procedures

This free informational report describes LASIK, laser vision, and other refractive surgery procedures that are available to help you see better.