FAQs About LASIK



Is it possible my treatment could result in the continued use of glasses or contacts?

It is possible that treatment could result in an unintended under- response or over- response that may require the continued use of glasses or contact lenses after surgery has been performed.



Although infrequent, infection or inflammation is possible during the healing of the cornea. This may result in permanently decreased vision.



Some patients experience haze (or corneal cloudiness). PRK and LASEK procedures have higher risks of haze than LASIK. Haze is difficult to treat and may result in loss of best-corrected visual acuity, including permanent loss of visual sharpness or clarity.



Will my "night vision" be affected?

Vision at night could not seem as sharp as during the day. Some patients may experience night-glare, as a "starburst," a "halo effect," or haze around lights in the nighttime. Some degree of night glare can be expected in many patients. It usually is tolerable and resolves in time, but on occasion could be permanent.

Will I be more sensitive to bright lights or glares?

There may be an increased sensitivity to light or glare in some patients.

Will my vision be blurry after LASIK?

Blurriness is common in the healing process. While blurriness generally clears in several days, it may take longer to clear, and could remain permanently.



Is it possible to lose the best-corrected visual acuity?

There is a risk of loss of best corrected visual acuity. For most patients, visual acuity will have stabilized in about 3 to 6 months, although full recovery, especially for PRK, may take 4 to 12 months.

Will I need reading glasses after LASIK?

If you are over 40 years of age and have laser vision correction to correct both eyes for distance vision, you will likely need reading glasses in order to see objects approximately 3 feet and closer, either now, or sometime in the next several years.



You may experience dryness of the eyes and this dryness may cause severe irritation, discomfort, and blurring of vision for several weeks, or longer, and could rarely be permanent.



What is Ectasia?

The cornea could become weakened from the thinning of laser vision correction, and begin to bulge. This is known as ectasia. There is no way to completely eliminate the risks of ectasia with LASIK, PRK or LASEK. Patients having LASIK are at higher risks for ectasia than patients having PRK or LASEK. The doctor may recommend PRK as a way to lower the risk of ectasia, but there is no guarantee that the condition will not develop. Ectasia can result in vision loss.

Will further treatment be necessary?

Further treatment could include a variety of eyedrops, the wearing of glasses and/or contact lenses (hard or soft), or additional surgical or laser correction (enhancements). Further treatment, including hospitalization, could be necessary.

Are there any other complications to LASIK?

As with all types of surgery, there is a possibility of complications, including those due to drug reactions. Understand that it is impossible to be informed of all potential risks of any surgery, including laser vision corrective procedures. Provide the Lasik*Plus* staff with complete and up to date information regarding your medical history and your prescription and over the counter medications you currently take.



