

# Multifocal Lens Implants

## FOR AN ACTIVE LIFESTYLE

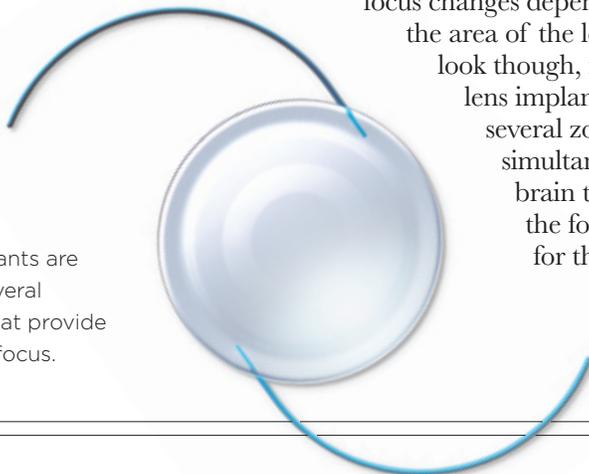
Innovative multifocal lens implant technology makes it possible to regain more youthful vision with less dependence on glasses or contact lenses.



### VISUAL FREEDOM

With both cataract surgery and refractive lens exchange the eye's natural lens is removed and replaced with a high tech lens implant. Until several years ago, single-focus lens implants were the only option available. Although single-focus implants provide excellent vision, they are not able to focus both near and far. Before surgery, patients and their doctors choose a particular single distance they want for best focus and a lens implant power is selected to try to match

Multifocal lens implants are engineered with several concentric zones that provide different ranges of focus.



this goal. Glasses are usually required for other distances.

Multifocal lens implants have changed this. They are designed to allow you to see near, far and in between. Multifocals are more expensive than single-focus implants, but they provide freedom to enjoy an active lifestyle by reducing or eliminating the need for glasses.

### HOW MULTIFOCALS WORK

Unlike bifocal glasses, where focus changes depending on the area of the lens you look through, multifocal lens implants provide several zones of focus simultaneously. The brain then selects the focus needed for the task

at hand and disregards everything else. This is similar to the ability to ignore background noise during a conversation. In most cases, improved vision is noticed almost immediately after surgery. However, there may be an adjustment period of several weeks as you get used to your new vision. Some patients say their ability to function without glasses gets even better during the first year.

### NEED FOR GLASSES

Multifocals allow the vast majority of people to function well without glasses. However, there may be situations where print or images are too small or too far away to see without glasses. The amount of light and quality of print will also make a difference. While you may want to wear glasses for prolonged reading, multifocals should provide the freedom to read a menu, look at a cell phone, see the details of a boarding pass, write a note or read a price tag.

**BRIGHT LIGHTS AND HALOS**

Depending on the size of your pupils, you may see halos or a slight glare around bright lights at night. This is the result of light being seen by the near and distance focusing zones of the lens implant. Fortunately, the brain usually learns to ignore these halos and they become less noticeable over time. Although the adjustment time varies, most people do not notice the glow after a few months. Compared to earlier models, the newest multifocal lenses have been successfully designed to significantly reduce the halo effect.

**EXTRA COST**

If you have cataracts, medical insurance may cover the costs for surgery with standard single-focus lens implants. But multifocal lens implants involve additional tests, services and fees. These extra fees are not generally covered by insurance and must be paid out of pocket. If you do not have cataracts but are considering refractive lens exchange to improve your vision, insurance will not usually cover any of the costs for surgery or lens implants. If needed, a payment plan with 24-month 0% financing is available.

**ENHANCEMENT TREATMENT**

Enhancement surgery is sometimes required to help patients achieve optimal levels of visual function. When needed, our surgeons have several procedures they can use to fine tune vision.

**LASER CAPSULOTOMY**

In the months and years after lens implant surgery, some patients experience a reduction in vision as cells grow behind their new lens. Clear vision can be quickly and easily restored with painless bursts of light in a procedure called YAG laser capsulotomy. If the initial lens implant surgery was done because of cataracts, medical insurance usually covers this treatment.

**YOUR DECISION**

Selecting multifocal lens implants is a personal decision. A good place to start is to consider your lifestyle and how strong your desire is to reduce dependence on glasses. While multifocal lens implants carry no guarantees, they should greatly improve the odds that you will be able to read and see better overall without glasses. Collectively, our surgeons have performed hundreds of thousands of lens implant operations. So whichever lens you choose, you will be in excellent hands.

**FAMILY EYE DOCTOR**

Since your family optometrist is most familiar with your eyes and visual demands, he or she is ideally suited to provide expert guidance to the lens implant that will best meet your goals. He or she will also provide important after surgery care.

**CANDIDATES**

Measurements taken by your eye doctor will indicate whether your eyes are well suited for multifocal lens implants.

**ADVANTAGES**

- Greater independence from glasses for most activities
- Good reading vision in most situations
- Good intermediate vision
- Good distance vision day and night
- Most people function well and are happy with their vision

**LIMITATIONS**

- Halos or slight glare around lights at night
- Can take weeks or months to adapt to vision
- Glasses may still be needed for some tasks
- May require fine-tuning with laser vision correction
- More exams and doctor visits are required
- Extra services involve additional costs

**QUESTIONS**

If you have questions about multifocal lens implants, call our surgery counselors or talk with your optometric physician.

*Pacific Cataract and Laser Institute*  
www.pcli.com

**800-224-7254**  
**800-557-7254** In Alaska



Scan to watch our multifocal video, or visit the lens implant options section of our video library at pcli.com