

- Why should I choose Melbourne Eye Centre? Why should I choose Melbourne Eye Centre?
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Most cataract centres are corporate owned and often have big budgets. They are reliant on large volumes of patients which increases the risk that they may cut corners and often pressure you to proceed. We are an independent, privately owned and more concerned with excellent outcomes and happy patients. We have performed thousands of eye procedures and have many happy patients.

Will I have a general anaesthetic?

Mostly no. Local anaesthetic is usually used with either drops only or sometimes an injection near the eye. You will get light sedation so that you don't have any memory of it.

Is it painful?

Most people have no pain. Some have some irritation. Rarely, some have some pain.

Can I have both eyes done the same day?

No, this is considered dangerous and most hospital will not allow it.

Is it safe? What are the risks involved?

Modern eye surgery has become very high tech, and thus very safe. The equipment used is all computer controlled. Success rates tend to be greater than 98%. It is however still surgery and therefore does carry risk. Ask your doctor to discuss this with you in more detail.

How successful is cataract surgery and what are the risks?

Providing that your eyes are otherwise healthy, your vision should be restored back to normal. Even if you have other problems, most people gain improvement.

Is it true that I will have a new lens in my eye?

Yes, you will have a modern acrylic lens implanted.

When will I be able to see?

Many people can see the next day but typically it takes several days to a week. In some unusual cases it can take a month or more but this is rare.

Will I need to take time off work?

Usually only the day of surgery. You will be seen the next morning and can get back to work straight away.

What are the restrictions following surgery?

None really. It is usually wise not to swim for a week or two

Will I be able to throw away my glasses?

Your need for glasses will be reduced but you will still need some kind of glasses. Mainly for reading

What are the measurements prior to surgery for?

In order to determine what the strength of the implanted lens will be and whether you need astigmatism correction.

What is astigmatism and how do you correct it?

The front surface of an eye is called the cornea. In a "perfect" eye it would be round like a soccer ball. In an eye with astigmatism it is shaped like a football or like an egg, with one meridian being steeper than the other. This produces distorted and blurred images both up close and far away. This can be corrected by the use of a special lens called a toric lens. Occasionally an additional procedure called Limbal Relaxing Incisions can be done at the same time as the cataract procedure.

What stops me from blinking or moving my eye during the surgery?

There is an instrument that holds your lids apart to prevent blinking. Movement is not usually a problem.

Can my cataract come back?

No, cataract surgery is permanent.

Does Medicare cover cataract surgery?

Medicare does cover your operation as does your private health insurance

What's the next step?

You need to call for an appointment for a full eye examination with an eye surgeon
