**Lens Options**

Depending on your needs, there are multiple intraocular lens (IOL) options that may be for you. Your surgeon will help you choose the correct IOL for you.

- **Monofocal (single focus)**
  
  Monofocal IOLs correct for vision at either distance or near. Glasses are generally needed after surgery.

- **Toric* (astigmatism correcting)**
  
  Toric IOLs correct for astigmatism in addition to correcting for either distance or near. Toric IOLs allow for clearer vision as a result of astigmatism correction.

- **Multifocal***
  
  Multifocal IOLs give a wider range of vision without glasses. In most cases, glasses will not be needed either for driving or TV **and also** for close up vision, such as computers or reading. These lenses function somewhat like built in bifocals, splitting the focused light between distance and near.

- **Accommodating***
  
  Like multifocal lenses, accommodating lenses are also designed to increase the range of vision without glasses for most daily activities. These IOLs work by flexing, mimicking the natural focusing action of the eye.

*Lifestyle IOL

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**Cataract Surgery**

All of our cataract surgeons at the Gavin Herbert Eye Institute are Board Certified by the American Board of Ophthalmology. Our relationship with you as a patient is focused on fulfilling the needs and priorities of your eye condition, applying state-of-the-art diagnosis and surgical procedures, and supplying experienced advice for achieving your best possible visual results.
What are Cataracts?
A cataract is a clouding of the lens in the eye. The normally clear lens focuses light that enters the eye. As it becomes cloudy, less light enters the eye and vision becomes cloudy. Cataracts occur with age and often in both eyes.

What causes cataract?
- Aging
- Diabetes or other eye diseases
- Past eye infections, injuries, or surgery
- Medications (such as steroids)
- Cataracts can also run in families

Cataract Surgery at
The Gavin Herbert Eye Institute

When Should You See Your Doctor?
Regular eye exams help your doctor determine if cataracts are affecting your vision. Symptoms that indicate development of a cataract include:
- Blurry vision
- Glare while driving or reading
- Colors appear dull
- Your prescription glasses keep changing
- Poor night vision

When Is Surgery Needed?
Since cataracts develop slowly, you may not need surgery right away. Your doctor may ask you to get new glasses. You may need to use more light for detailed tasks like reading. If cataracts limit your activities - such as driving, reading, or watching TV - your doctor may suggest surgery. Surgery is the only way to remove a cataract and restore clear vision. During surgery, the cloudy lens is removed and replaced with a clear intraocular lens (IOL).

My Doctor Has Suggested Cataract Surgery - What Should I expect?
- During your pre-operative evaluation, your surgeon will perform an extensive eye exam.
- Measurements to help select the correct IOL will be performed.
- You will be required to have a medical clearance performed prior to surgery.
- You will start medicated eyedrops three days prior to surgery.
- You will need to arrange for transportation to and from surgery, as well as for your one day post-operative visit.
- The actual surgery usually takes about 15 minutes. Total time at the surgery center will be about 3 hours.
- If you have cataracts in both eyes, generally there is a 1-2 week interval between the first and second surgery.

Frequently Asked Questions?
- Where does the surgery take place? Our surgery center is located on the UCI Medical Campus in Orange. The surgery center is on the 3rd floor of the Chao Family Center Building (Building 25).
- Is cataract surgery covered by my insurance? Yes, cataract surgery is generally covered by your health insurance. If you choose a “lifestyle IOL” you will have an out-of-pocket expense.
- When will I be able to return to work? Generally, visual recovery is fast. In many cases, your vision is already better by the first day after surgery. You should be able to return to work within a few days of surgery.