



CORNEA CONSULTANTS of Texas

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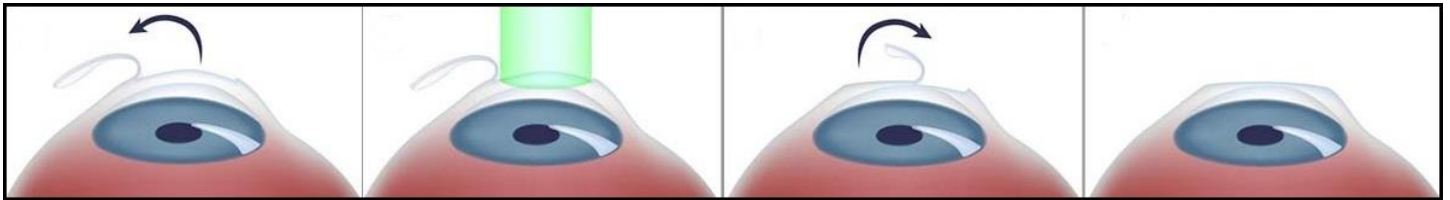
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What is LASIK?

Laser-Assisted in Situ Keratomileusis, commonly known as LASIK, is a vision correction procedure which corrects common vision problems including myopia, hyperopia, and astigmatism. If you are a candidate for LASIK, laser vision correction may be a great option to help you eliminate your dependency on glasses or contact lenses. Other surgical options, such as PRK, may also be discussed as an alternative to LASIK. With our specialty expertise, years of experience, and fellowship training, we look forward to helping you reach your goals of unaided clear vision in a safe and caring environment.

How Does LASIK Work?

The first step involves creating a thin corneal flap by using a laser customized for your eye individually. Once the flap is created it is gently moved aside to allow a computer guided excimer laser to reshape the cornea. Once the laser treatment has finished, the flap is gently replaced and adheres without the need of stitches. The procedure takes only a few minutes for each eye, and generally most patients are noticing the benefits of laser vision correction within 24 hours. All patients must return the next day to ensure proper healing and position of the flap. In rare cases, the flap may need to be lifted or readjusted to ensure proper healing and best vision potential. It is important to understand that everyone will have a different experience with LASIK, and in some cases optimal vision potential is not reached until several weeks after the procedure. Eye drops are used to prevent infection and treat inflammation.



What is PRK?

PRK, or PhotoRefractive Keratectomy, may be discussed as an alternative for patients who are not ideal candidates for LASIK vision correction. Unlike LASIK, PRK is performed on the corneal surface, not under a corneal flap. The procedure is performed by removing the surface epithelium manually or with a mechanical brush. The surface is smoothed and the excimer laser is precisely used to reshape the cornea based on thorough testing and wavefront technology. As there is no flap to protect the nerves and healing cells, a bandage contact lens is placed on the cornea surface and left in place for several days. Eye drops are used to prevent infection and treat inflammation.

Who is a Candidate for LASIK?

LASIK is not safe for everyone, and at Cornea Consultants of Texas, we thoroughly screen our patients to determine whether or not it is safe to proceed with laser vision correction. Careful discussion about distance and near vision, glare and halos, and your vision goals, is imperative to exceeding your expectations. If you have been diagnosed with any of the following conditions, you may not be an ideal candidate for LASIK or PRK surgery.

- o Severely dry eyes or inflammation related to dryness or infection
- o Certain rheumatological conditions (e.g. lupus, rheumatoid arthritis)
- o Corneal disease, degeneration, or scarring
- o Advanced retinal disease
- o Cataracts

Call us today to schedule your free LASIK consultation!

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