



discover
your world
through
**Laser Vision
CORRECTION**



Questions? Please contact:

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Visit www.uihealthcare.com/eyecare
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Sometimes it's the little things that make the biggest difference. Like waking up and seeing the alarm clock without glasses. Or going for a swim without worrying about your contacts.

Refractive surgery could make these little differences a reality for you.



Until recently, only glasses or contact lenses could correct vision problems.

Today, refractive surgery changes the

shape of the cornea,

improving how many people see.

Refractive surgery has

given over a million people

the visual freedom to

pursue the lifestyles that

suit them.



University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics offers a variety of refractive surgery options:

PRK: Photo-refractive keratectomy

Surgeons correct your vision by removing the epithelium, a thin layer of tissue, from the surface of the cornea.

LASIK: Laser in-situ keratomileusis

LASIK corrects your vision by reshaping the corneal tissue beneath the surface of the cornea.

LASEK: Laser Subepithelial Keratomileusis

LASEK combines certain elements of PRK and LASIK.

INTACS: Corneal Ring Segments

INTACS, also known as Corneal Ring Segments, are placed in the periphery of the cornea, flattening the center.

Talk to your doctor about what is best for you.

PRK

PRK is most often used to treat low to moderate levels of nearsightedness, farsightedness, and astigmatism.

PRK treats refractive errors by removing tissue from the surface of the cornea. Before the procedure, your eye is numbed using “eye drop” anesthesia and an instrument is placed between the eyelids to prevent blinking. In less than two minutes, your surgeon, using a laser, removes the proper amount of tissue and reshapes the cornea’s surface. By altering the shape or placement of the laser beam, the cornea is made flatter to treat nearsightedness, steeper to treat farsightedness, and/or more rounded to treat astigmatism. you will wear a bandage contact lens for three to five days after the surgery. Your surgeon may recommend treating one eye at a time because recovery with this surgery may take longer

LASIK

LASIK differs from PRK in that it corrects vision by reshaping the corneal tissue beneath the surface of the cornea rather than on the surface. LASIK combines the accuracy of the laser with the healing benefits of a surgical procedure called Lamellar Keratoplasty.

After your eye has been numbed using “eye drop” anesthesia, an eyelid holder is placed between your lids to prevent blinking. Your surgeon then makes a protective flap in the cornea. During this process you may feel a little pressure, but no discomfort. Using a laser, the protective flap is folded back in place where it bonds without the need for stitches

Because LASIK is performed under a layer of protective tissue, there is less surface area to heal, less risk of corneal haze, less postoperative discomfort, and less need for postoperative medication. Your vision also returns more rapidly — often within a day or so.

LASIK can also be used to treat higher ranges of nearsightedness, farsightedness, and astigmatism. LASIK carries more surgical risks than PRK.

LASEK

LASEK is similar to PRK because the treatment is performed on the cornea’s surface. After numbing your eye with anesthetic drops, your surgeon loosen the epithelium (outer surface) with a diluted alcohol solution and pushes it aside. The surgeon then uses a laser to treat the cornea surface, similar to the PRK and LASIK procedures. The epithelial flap is returned to its original position, and a bandage contact lens is placed during the healing process.



Imagine what your life would be like if you were less dependent on contacts or glasses...

INTACS

INTACS are an alternative to laser vision procedures. Placing INTACS in the periphery of the cornea allows it to flatten in the center. Surgeons use INTACS to treat low levels of nearsightedness. Your eye is numbed with anesthetic drops. Next, a small incision is made and two

small semicircular tunnels are made in the cornea. The ring segments are then placed in these tunnels. Surgeons frequently close the incision with a stitch and remove it anywhere from one week to three months later. A bandage contact lens helps with your initial healing. INTACS are removable and replaceable. If you are not satisfied with the change in vision using the INTACS, they can be removed. Additionally, if your vision changes, different size rings can be inserted.

CUSTOM ABLATION

Custom ablation, or custom lasik, provides a new addition to refractive surgery. Custom ablation is an automatic way to create a unique laser treatment for each patient.

