

Improved Accuracy for Cataract Patients with Utah's First Custom Cataract Laser

Latest FDA Approved Technology for Your Eyes at The Eye Institute of Utah Allows for Truly Customized Vision

It's a fact of life that over time your eyes begin to fade as the crisp images and vibrant colors of life seem to disappear. This affects most of life's activities from reading, driving, being active, enjoying nature, and much more. The Eye Institute of Utah is pleased to offer its patients the only custom blade-free cataract laser in the western United States. Results show this laser is up to 10x more accurate than manual cataract surgery using a blade thus providing the safest and most predictable results for cataract patients who want to attain the highest quality of vision.

Cataracts are the most common reason for reduced vision as we get older.

What Are Cataracts?

Cataracts cloud the lens of the eye which causes blurred or reduced vision at all distances. In a healthy eye, light passes through the lens and is focused on the retina which in turn transfers the image into nerve signals that are sent to the brain. As cataracts form, the lens of the eye becomes clouded and the images sent to the retina are not as sharp and vibrant as they once were. This condition generally develops gradually and can appear as early as age 40. By age 80, over half of the population has had cataracts in one or both eyes.

What is Available to Treat Cataracts?

Cataract patients have typically undergone surgery to replace the natural lens of the eye and replace it with an artificial intraocular lens or IOL. This procedure is called standard cataract surgery and is covered by most insurance plans including Medicare. These IOLs are effective in restoring

vision and the patient will never again develop a cataract. Although these standard IOLs produce clear vision, patients may still need glasses or contacts to focus on objects at near, far or both due to remaining astigmatism and presbyopia.

Custom Cataract Surgery involves the use of special advanced technology IOLs and techniques that are specifically designed to help people see near and far. These special IOLs and techniques have been very successful in helping people reduce or eliminate their dependency on glasses by decreasing astigmatism and presbyopia.

Custom Cataract Laser

Until now, standard cataract procedures and custom cataract surgeries were performed manually where the surgeon used a blade for all incisions. A manual procedure allows for a margin of error that can increase risks and affect outcomes. With the introduction of the first FDA approved custom cataract laser, surgeons at The Eye Institute of Utah now have the ability to create incisions and potentially reduce astigmatism without blades. These incisions are proven to be more accurate and precise, thus eliminating some of the variables that have complicated cataract surgery in the past. Recent results show that the custom cataract laser is up to 10x more precise than manual techniques for some portions of the cataract surgical procedure. This type of laser precision, combined with the experience of world class cataract surgeons is available only at The Eye Institute of Utah. By being more accurate and precise, surgery should be safer and visual outcomes more predictable.

The Eye Institute of Utah is accepting new patients for vision correction surgery with the new FDA approved LenSx custom cataract laser

If you suspect that your poor vision may be caused by cataracts, call today to schedule your appointment. Cataract surgery is covered by insurance and The Eye Institute of Utah accepts most plans including Medicare.

If you have presbyopia and would like to restore your vision of earlier years, call today to set up a no charge consultation. During your visit, the world-class doctors at The Eye Institute of Utah will determine if your eyes qualify for the newest premium IOLs. Most patients are great candidates and experience excellent outcomes with reduced dependency on glasses or contacts.

ABOUT THE EYE INSTITUTE OF UTAH

The Eye Institute of Utah received one of the first custom cataract lasers in the world due to its distinguished history of over 30 years of pioneering modern cataract procedures and the remarkable eye surgeons who dedicate their lives to improving patient outcomes. In fact, over the last three decades, surgeons at The Eye Institute of Utah have performed over 100,000 procedures, are widely published in prestigious journals and continue to be involved in numerous clinical trials and studies that bring advanced technologies to their patients first.

Recently Dr. Robert Cionni was selected by a consumer and physician reviewed research group and was seen in Forbes Magazine and The New York Times as one of America's best Cataract Surgeons.

The breakthroughs and discoveries published by these doctors have made better eye care possible for people all over the world. Eye Institute of Utah surgeons are key speakers at annual events and conferences across the globe. Over the past few years, cataract procedures at The Eye Institute of Utah have been broadcast live to thousands of doctors at the annual meetings of the American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery (AS-CRS) and the American Academy of Ophthalmology (AAO) as a means of teaching eye doctors across the US and the world. They are dedicated to serving the local, national, and global community.

Every week, eye doctors from across the world refer patients to The Eye Institute of Utah. These patients are typically some of the most challenging and demanding cases and require a surgeon with extensive experience to produce the best possible outcome. Patients who do their research will also travel long distances to have their procedure performed by some of the world's best surgeons at The Eye Institute of Utah.



Dr. Cionni with the new Custom Cataract Laser after a busy morning in surgery.

The Custom Cataract Laser is Not Just for Cataract Patients

Custom cataract laser surgery uses similar technology to that of blade-free LASIK surgery. Most people understand that blade-free LASIK is more accurate and safe however most people don't understand that LASIK is usually not the best vision correction option for those who are over 45. This is due to the fact that LASIK cannot

prevent presbyopia. People who are over 45, who elect to have LASIK, may still need glasses or contacts for up close vision because the natural lens inside their eyes still continues to change with age.

What is Presbyopia?

Presbyopia is the hardening of the lens, which typically causes a loss of focus on objects up close. The lens of the eye needs to change its shape to fo-

cus on objects at distance, or objects up close. This ability for the lens of the eye to change shape and focus up close is typically lost as people age.

Those who are over 45 and need glasses for reading are most likely experiencing the beginning of presbyopia. Presbyopia is a natural part of the aging process and it affects everyone.

Patients with presbyopia can now choose to have a procedure called refractive lens exchange or RLE to replace the natural lenses of their eyes with multifocal intraocular lenses or IOLs. These multifocal IOLs are different from standard IOLs in that they help focus near, far, and in between and in most cases the patient will never have to use glasses or contacts again. This is an elective surgery and is generally not covered by insurance.

The surgeons at The Eye Institute of Utah can now utilize the blade-free cataract laser to perform RLE with greater precision and safety than ever before.

Patients who undergo cataract surgery with implantation of a standard IOL will likely have presbyopia the rest of their lives. However, if they choose to have Custom Cataract Surgery with placement of a multifocal IOL they will likely not need glasses for almost anything they do, far, near and in-between. Cataract patients who elect to have Custom Cataract Surgery may still use insurance for the standard cataract procedure but will pay for the cost of the custom upgrade out of pocket.

Call The Eye Institute of Utah at 801-803-6968 to schedule your appointment.



Robert J. Cionni, MD

Dr. Robert J. Cionni, Medical Director of The Eye Institute of Utah is a world renowned authority in the field of modern cataract surgery. Dr. Cionni has established himself at the forefront of advanced cataract surgery by pioneering numerous techniques and technologies in the field of ophthalmology. He is frequently invited to speak at national and international meetings including the American Academy of Ophthalmology, the American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery and the European Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery. At these meetings he instructs Ophthalmologists in advanced cataract surgery techniques and the management of cataract and implant complications. He has authored numerous manuscripts, textbook chapters, and video segments that are read and viewed worldwide. He travels throughout the world teaching eye surgeons about advanced technology IOLs including those designed to reduce presbyopia and astigmatism such as the ReSTOR, Tecnis Multifocal, Crystalens, Toric IOLs and the LenSx Custom Cataract Laser.



Darcy H. Wolsey, MD, MPH

Dr. Wolsey specializes in the diagnosis and treatment of advanced corneal problems. She performs corneal transplants, including sutureless transplants and laser assisted corneal surgery. Some of her special interests include dry eye and keratoconus treatment. She utilizes the latest technology for keratoconus including the use of INTACS and corneal collagen cross linking, and is currently participating in FDA studies involving keratoconus. In addition, Dr. Wolsey performs cataract surgery and refractive surgeries including LASIK, PRK, implantable contact lens, refractive lens exchange and presbyopic vision correction.

WHAT ARE OPTOMETRISTS SAYING?

"I refer to The Eye Institute of Utah because of their long standing commitment to quality, customer service and personal care of my patients. They offer the latest technology for cataracts, ICLs and LASIK. The staff always goes above and beyond to make sure my patients are comfortable and well educated about their surgical options. I know my patients receive the very best care because the doctors at The Eye Institute are at the forefront of their profession. They teach other surgeons around the world about the most current techniques used for vision correction and participate in current research that continuously helps improve technology - assuring me that my patients will benefit directly from their experience and knowledge."

- Dr. Shaun Larsen
Magna Family Eye Care



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