



There is no better time to
begin living your life
free of glasses
and contact lenses

london  centre™

A centre of innovation

Back in 1985, London Place Eye Centre (as we were then known) became the first clinic in Canada dedicated to corrective eye surgery. We continued to pioneer the science of vision correction, and were the first in British Columbia to use a laser to correct nearsightedness, farsightedness and astigmatism.



Later, we introduced the 'No Touch™ PRK procedure, a non-invasive bladeless surgery that uses a cool beam of laser light to reshape the surface of the cornea. Unlike traditional LASIK, there is no cutting of the eye needed to create a flap. 'No Touch' also preserves more corneal tissue. 'No Touch' is now practiced at leading clinics around the world.

For over twenty years, we have advanced the science of laser vision correction. The centre has performed over 85,000 procedures on patients

from 30 countries. We can correct most vision conditions, even strong prescriptions, simply, safely, with precision and excellent long-term results. Our surgical team is among the most experienced in the world. Ophthalmologists from near and far come to us for training and in many cases, have had their own vision corrected at our clinic. And London Eye Centre continues to be recognized internationally as a research centre for new developments in laser vision correction.



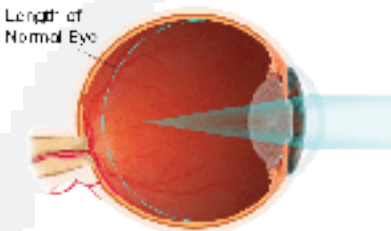
London Eye Centre offers information seminars where all the options, benefits and risks of laser vision correction are openly discussed. Once you've talked to London Eye Centre, you'll see there is no better time to begin a new life free of glasses and contact lenses.



Who qualifies

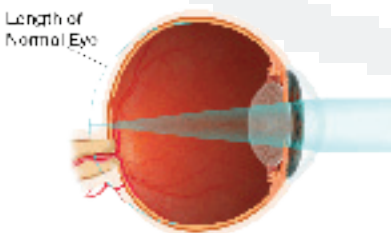
Most vision problems involve refraction issues — the way light is focused by your eye. It depends on three elements: the curvature of the cornea, the power of the lens, and the length of the eye. If these elements are structured correctly, then light will focus on the retina properly. However, it is common for one or more of these to be structured imperfectly. This irregularity results in a refractive problem.

Myopia (nearsightedness)



When an eye is myopic, it has too much focusing power. This extra focusing ability is the result of an eyeball that is too long or a cornea that has excessive curvature, creating a steep surface. Those with myopia see distance objects blurred. Near objects however, can be focused clearly since they usually require additional focusing power to produce a clear image. London Eye Centre has corrected up to -14 diopters of myopia.

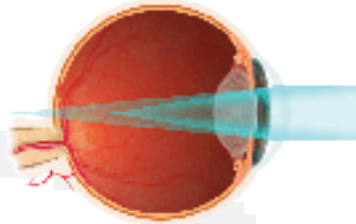
Hyperopia (farsightedness)



A hyperopic eye does not have enough focusing power. The lack of focusing ability is the result of an eyeball that is too short or a cornea that does not have enough curve. This creates a flat surface. Those with hyperopia initially have blur-

ry vision up close, but with aging, it can progress to intermediate and distance vision problems. London Eye Centre has corrected up to +6 diopters of hyperopia.

Astigmatism



When an eye is astigmatic, it lacks a uniform surface which results in the inability to have one focal point. This asymmetry is due to the cornea being curved on one place more so than on the other. It is easier to understand this concept if you consider a normal eye to be the shape of a tennis ball (spherical) and an astigmatic eye the shape of a football (toric). Usually astigmatism is the combination of both myopia and hyperopia and, therefore, both distance and near objects are blurry.

Presbyopia (monovision)

Presbyopia is an aging condition that contributes to the need for reading glasses. Not to be confused with hyperopia (farsightedness), presbyopia occurs because the lens inside the eye has become rigid with age (usually around 45 years old). A common solution for those with distance problems and presbyopia is either bifocal or progressive glasses. With contact lenses, one lens can be adjusted to intentionally leave you slightly nearsighted. The difference is enough to aid your vision and brain to “accommodate” and lessens the need for reading glasses. This is known as monovision. This concept is also popular with laser vision correction patients over 40, particularly those who work with computers.



'No Touch' PRK procedure



It is essential for anyone interested in laser vision correction to have an in-depth consultation to determine if they are a suitable candidate.

At present, patients with virtually any degree of myopia (nearsightedness), hyperopia (farsightedness, up to +6), or astigmatism can be treated. Modifying the curvature or shape of the cornea is accomplished by vapourizing a small amount of tissue using the Excimer Laser. The laser allows molecular quantities of corneal tissue to be removed with extreme precision; the amount removed is less than half the thickness of a human hair.

The 'No Touch' procedure, which we developed, is a very advanced version of the PRK surface procedure. No cutting is required; in fact, no mechanical instruments touch the eye. This is in contrast to conventional LASIK (Laser Assisted Keratomileusis), a multi-stage procedure that consists of cutting a

flap using a motorized blade, then using a laser under the flap for vision correction.

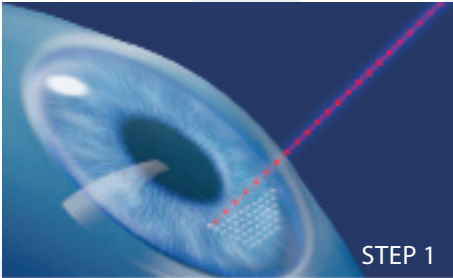
On the day of your procedure, you will be at the clinic for about ninety minutes. After a second thorough measuring of your eyes and consultation with your surgeon, your eyes will be numbed using only drops, and every step of the procedure will be explained in detail, so you'll know exactly what to expect. Once you're in the treatment room, you're fitted with a small device to keep you from blinking. No other instruments are needed. Surface skin cells on the cornea, called epithelium, are removed and the laser reshapes the underlying corneal tissue, creating a new curvature. Procedure time is usually less than two minutes per eye.

The epithelium usually takes three to five days to heal. Although blurriness is expected during initial healing, you'll notice some improvements in focusing almost immediately.

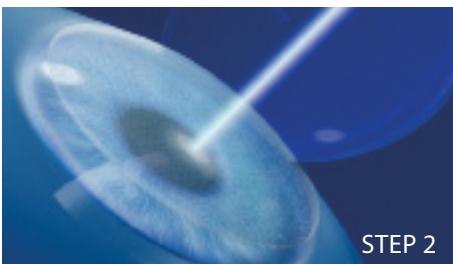


Intralase™ SBK procedure

London Eye Centre offers patients two vision correction options. IntraLase SBK is an all laser procedure eliminating the blade and cutting from the LASIK process. It offers comparable safety to the 'No Touch' PRK procedure as well as the shorter recovery associated with LASIK. Clinical studies involving one million cases have proven IntraLase SBK to be safer and more effective compared to the conventional LASIK process.



The IntraLase femtosecond laser uses an infrared beam of light to precisely separate tissue using focused laser pulses which divide material at the molecular level. This process allows the surgeon to produce an ultra-thin flap of corneal tissue without the use of a blade (as in conventional LASIK). This flap is gently lifted to expose the underlying tissue and the surgeon reshapes the cornea with a second laser. It is a painless procedure that normally takes less than five minutes per eye. Patients who undergo the IntraLase procedure experience little to no discomfort following their surgery and are normally seeing very well within 24-48 hours.



Combining the advantages of PRK and LASIK

LASIK

In the past, many people chose the LASIK method because of relatively shorter recovery and sometimes lower costs. Despite its popularity, there are potential concerns associated with conventional LASIK. Most of the LASIK safety issues are related to the cutting of the flap with the microkeratome blade.

PRK

Photorefractive Keratectomy is a surface procedure which removes the epithelium skin cells rather than cutting a flap. The 'No Touch' PRK method is considered to be the most advanced version of surface treatment. Although recovery time is relatively longer than LASIK, 'No Touch' PRK is popular with patients who take a conservative, safety-first approach. The 'No Touch' PRK procedure can also treat many patients with high corrections and thin corneas who are not eligible for LASIK.

IntraLase SBK

IntraLase SBK (Sub-Bowman's Keratomileusis) is a hybrid procedure which combines the safety of PRK and the quicker recovery of LASIK. The IntraLase SBK employs an infrared beam to make an ultra-thin, tailor-made flap superior in structure to a conventional LASIK flap. The computer-controlled laser creates and replaces the thinner flap with greater accuracy and precision. The IntraLase method gives your surgeon the ability to tailor the dimensions of the individualized corneal flap based on what is best for your eye.

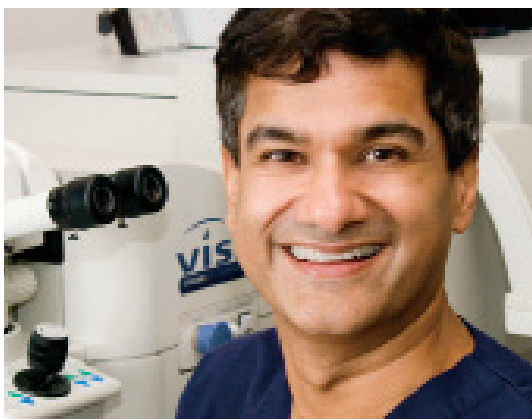


Our surgeons



Dr. Perry H. Maerov FRCS (C)
Dr. Maerov obtained his medical degree from the University of Alberta and completed his post-graduate training in Ophthalmology at Queens University in 1974. Dr Maerov serves as the Medical Director and Chief Surgeon at London Eye Centre. He has been a cataract and refractive surgeon for 30 years. Dr. Maerov is Chief Surgeon of our Kamloops clinic, and is also on the teaching staff in the Department of Ophthalmology at UBC.

Dr. Sanmugasunderam FRCS (C)
Dr. Suren Sanmugasunderam obtained his medical degree from the University of Ottawa and completed his post-graduate studies in ophthalmology at the University of British Columbia. Suren has been a cataract and refractive surgeon since 1995. He is on the teaching faculty at UBC, is a past-president of the BC Society of Eye Physicians and Surgeons and is a section editor for the Canadian Journal of Ophthalmology.



Dr. David R.S. Neima, FRCS (C)
Dr. Neima graduated Cum Laud in Medicine in 1977 at the Dalhousie Medical School and completed his training in Ophthalmology in 1986. Dr. Neima has served as Chief Surgeon and Medical Director for the former Cimbal Eye Centre in Vancouver and has trained many surgeons in refractive laser surgery. Dr. Neima has extensive experience with LASIK and surface techniques and has carried out over 15,000 successful procedures.

Dr. Jesse Chew FRCS (C),
(Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons, Canada)
Dr. Chew obtained his medical degree and Royal College of Canada Certification in Ophthalmology from the University of British Columbia. Dr. Chew gained expertise in ocular biodevices and therapeutics during his fellowship at the Moran Eye Center, University of Utah. He currently is a Clinical Assistant Professor at UBC and the University of Utah.



Our technology

London Eye Centre uses the AMO (VISX) Star S4-IR Excimer laser system, the most advanced technology available. VISX invented the technology for laser vision correction over 20 years ago and continues to be the most trusted laser among surgeons. Recently, over 70% of surgeons surveyed said they would select AMO (VISX) if they could choose one laser to use on their patients. We have been a training site and clinical trial facility for AMO (VISX) since 1990 and many VISX employees had their own laser vision correction performed at London Eye Centre.



The latest AMO (VISX) laser, the Star S4-IR, has a number of new breakthroughs that have been improving the excellent results we've already been achieving.

The WaveScan Wavefront system provides a new level of diagnostic information previously unavailable. It reveals the way your entire optical system processes light. WaveScan-

based digital technology identifies and measures imperfections in your eyes 25 times more precisely than standard methods. The powerful WaveScan software can translate this information into a customized treatment.

Variable Spot Scanning (VSS™) is an exclusive AMO (VISX) laser technology that allows for a larger treatment area. This has minimized earlier night vision issues where pupil size was a consideration.

Without a tracking device, laser vision correction has required patients to hold their eyes as still as possible during the procedure. The 3D ActiveTrak™ follows any tiny movements of your eye instantaneously and automatically, in all three dimensions, repositioning the laser to ensure accuracy. You can relax knowing that you're obtaining a correction that is precisely centered on your eye.

The AMO (VISX) laser also preserves more corneal tissue. Combined with the 'No Touch' PRK method or the IntraLase SBK method, this provides the best options for patients with thin corneas who may not be eligible for LASIK or procedures that remove more tissue.



Risks and rewards

Laser vision correction is one of the most commonly performed elective procedures in North America. As with any surgery, a careful review of the risks and the rewards should be made. 'No Touch' PRK and IntraLase SBK are exceptionally safe and effective procedures. Due to the precision of the laser and the fact no blades touch the eye, we feel they are the safest procedures available. Some side effects can occur during healing, including infection, under or over correction, corneal haze and dry eyes. Incidence of complications is low. While the laser is precise, human tissue can vary in healing capabilities. All risks will be discussed in a private consultation.



Light Sensitivity

Most eyes are sensitive to light post operatively. This is usually short lasting — less than one to two weeks. Sunglasses should be worn in bright sunlight for a few months following surgery to avoid excessive UV radiation.

Corneal Haze

The term "haze" is used when the healing response results in new tissue growth on the treated surface sufficient enough for a loss of transparency visible with the examination microscope. Haze is treatable and generally dissipates over time.

Overcorrection

Initial overcorrection is usually planned as the cornea heals. The eye generally stabilizes to near-predicted results within one to three months; however, in rare cases, it may remain overcorrected. An overcorrection is more noticeable to older patients and is treatable with both the Holmium or Excimer laser.

Undercorrection

Undercorrection is more common than overcorrection. Small amounts of undercorrection do not seriously affect the resulting vision. Large amounts, however, may need a retreatment (or corrective lenses full or part time) for clear vision.

Benefits

There are numerous life benefits laser vision correction can provide, including freedom from lenses for sports, recreation, driving or work. There are a number of occupations, such as pilots, firefighters, and police officers, that require a high standard of visual acuity without visual aids.



Frequently asked questions

Does it matter which clinic does my procedure?

Experience is always crucial when selecting a clinic or doctor for any surgery. Equipment, technique and dedication to patient safety are also important factors to consider. At London Eye Centre, all our surgeons have extensive experience and use the same equipment, technique and highly trained support staff to ensure our high standards are met. You should select a facility that has the track record and reputation you require. It is your vision and it is an optional procedure.



Does the equipment matter?

Not all facilities use the same laser for vision correction. While there are several different laser manufacturers, VISX (now AMO) is the clear leader in the field. As the world's No.1 laser vision correction company, VISX lasers have been providing superior visual out-

comes with fewer complications since 1988.

Why do prices vary?

In addition to experience, technology and reputation, price is a factor. Most clinics that have attempted discount prices for vision correction have not remained in business. Be careful to ensure there are no hidden or additional charges and that you are confident the clinic you choose will be in business long term.

Can you guarantee the result?

Although the predictability of results is very high and incidence of complications is low, the answer is no. Different eyes heal at different rates and in different ways. If you end up with less correction than you hope for, chances are that your eye can be retreated simply and effectively to take it the rest of the way.

What about long-term results?

Laser vision correction has a track record of over 20 years of excellent results and safety. Conservative patients who have been waiting for the procedure to be proven long term can now proceed with confidence.



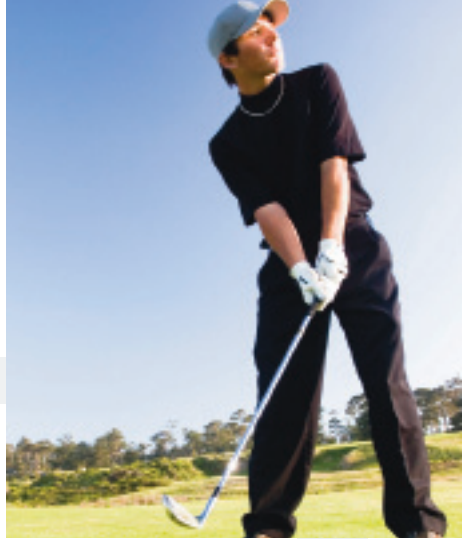
Testimonials

The rewards are simple; freedom from glasses and contact lenses. Since 1985, tens of thousands of patients have told us, "this is the best gift I've ever given myself." Here's more feedback:

Before my surgery, the staff at London Eye Centre answered all my questions. The big day came for my surgery and I don't mind telling you I was a little nervous, but I had no need to be. The staff made me feel at ease again as my eyes were re-measured and a final consultation was completed with the surgeon. We then moved onto the surgery, the whole procedure took only minutes. The staff was fabulous, the after care is excellent, they go to great lengths to make their patients comfortable. Thank you, London Eye Centre. I have perfect vision without glasses and contacts. Why did I wait so long?
Zack Spencer – Vancouver, B.C.



Fabulous! No longer have to wear glasses for driving, TV or distance. Love the results! Recommend the procedure to anyone and everyone who has to rely on glasses.
Gail W. – Langley, B.C.



I'm 100% satisfied. No more contacts ... don't need to put on my "reading" glasses for every little thing ...
Hilton P. – Coquitlam, B.C.

I simply cannot think of enough adjectives to describe my new vision: clear, perfect, wonderful, unbelievable.
Rick T. – Orange County, CA

I can play again like a child; my vision allows me to do skiing, snowboarding, roller-blading, water sports and lead an active life without glasses. Thanks!
David T. – Abbotsford, B.C.



You have no reason to wait

Who trusts their eyes to London Eye Centre? People applying for jobs that require excellent vision without glasses or contacts: police officers, pilots, the armed forces and firefighters. If many of these professionals have had their vision corrected by us. Why haven't you?



"I'm waiting for proof that the procedure is effective in the long term."

In the early years, many patients had taken a wait-and-see approach. London Eye Centre has been performing vision correction for over 20 years and is, without a doubt, B.C.'s most experienced laser eye centre. Patients can expect excellent long-term results.



"I'm concerned about the safety of laser vision correction."

London Eye Centre developed the 'No Touch' method. The procedure is precise, safe and completely non-invasive; no surgical blade ever touches your eye, unlike LASIK.



"I'm waiting for the technology to get better."

Laser vision correction is proven science. The centre has performed more than 85,000 successful procedures and their 'No Touch' method can correct most vision conditions with exceptional accuracy. The latest generation of lasers provides better results than ever.



"I can't afford it right now."

London Eye Centre offers a no-interest payment plan. Ask us about it.

Call London Eye Centre now and book your initial consultation. You've waited long enough; call today, and begin living your life free of glasses and contact lenses.



Find out if laser vision correction with London Eye Centre
is right for you?
Call us to book an initial consultation.

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