

What to Expect After Surgery

(Regardless of what your friends, family or neighbors told you)

- **Vision:** On your first return visit your vision will be **blurry!** Even patients that see 20/20 the next day will report a lack of sharpness or crispness. This is normal, your vision on the first day is **never** the final result. Be patient and understand this always gets better with time. You can also expect some fluctuation in vision; typically one eye will be doing better than the other. This equalizes over time.
- **Dryness:** This is the big battle initially that affects almost everyone. What most people do not understand is this is responsible for the initial blurriness. It typically goes away in two weeks but may last up to three months. After the initial week, most people will not feel dry but still will have blurry or fluctuating vision. This is normal. The surgery desensitizes your eyes so they will not feel dry. Therefore, the nerves will not send signals to your brain to make tears as much, further drying your eyes. This is why you need to supplement with artificial tears. You will notice that when you use them your vision gets better temporarily.
- **Redness:** Typically your eyes will be “pink” for 24 hours after surgery. Some people will have red splotches on the white parts of their eyes. This is where the suction broke a small capillary. This is cosmetic and will go away within 1-2 weeks.
- **Night Glare/ Haloes:** You may experience some night glare during the first week or two. Usually it starts with big lighted circles around lights at night and evolves to radial streaks that get smaller as time goes by. This will gradually improve and is typically gone by two months.
- **Indoor Vision/ Dim Lighting:** After the first day and then up to two months your outdoor vision will be better than your indoor vision. Florescent lights may bother your eyes during this time, but it too gets better!!
- **Tired Eyes:** Your eyes will feel tired, like you have contacts in them, especially at night. They are telling you they need rest and you should go to bed. This goes away after about a month.

- **Healing Time:** Everybody is different on this. Some patients feel completely normal after a week, most are completely healed at a month, and some take longer. Do not judge your healing time based on how others did.
- **Near Vision:** Typically your near vision will be worse or strained for the first 6-8 weeks. If you had PresbyLASIK please realize it may take that long before it is maximally improved.
- **Each Eye:** Do not cover one eye to check the other. It will just make you worry and minor differences between eyes are typical. Let your eyes work together, as they are intended to do.
- **Relax and be Patient**..... Enjoy the miracle as it unfolds!!!!