

Laser capsulotomy

During cataract or clear lens surgery, the natural lens of the eye is removed. This is replaced by an artificial lens that sits inside the same capsule that housed the natural lens. With time this lens capsule can go cloudy, which can affect vision.

This is very common after lens surgery and is easily treated by laser. The laser removes the cloudy part of the capsule leaving the lens and the rest of the eye intact.

The laser treatment is done by the doctor in the office. Drops are given to enlarge the pupil and then numb the eye. A lens is placed on the eye and the treatment is painless, and usually takes less than a minute.

The vision is often quite cloudy afterwards so you should not drive home immediately after your treatment. There are no other restrictions after the laser. By the next day the pupil should be the normal size again and the vision improved. Occasionally new floaters are noticed after treatment.

Complications are extremely rare after treatment. These include inflammation, increased eye pressure, swelling at the back of the eye which can affect vision, movement of, or damage to, the artificial lens, and retinal detachment. If there are any concerns after treatment please contact the clinic.

