



## Is femtosecond laser cataract surgery right for you?

### Unparalleled precision with laser guidance

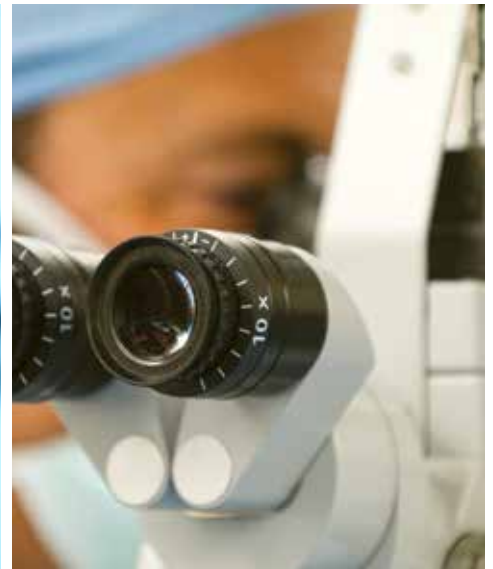
Cleveland Clinic Cole Eye Institute offers the latest, most innovative surgical options.

For an appointment today, call **216.444.2020** or toll-free **800.223.2273**, ext. 42020.

Or visit us online at [clevelandclinic.org/eye](https://clevelandclinic.org/eye).

Many Cleveland Clinic patients are seeing the difference. Femtosecond laser cataract surgery may be a great option to consider if you have cataracts. By using computer-guided lasers instead of manual incisions, the procedure is more accurate than conventional cataract surgery.

At Cleveland Clinic Cole Eye Institute, we're on the leading edge of femtosecond laser cataract surgery. Cleveland Clinic is among the few healthcare providers in Northeast Ohio to offer the first FDA-approved femtosecond laser system for cataract procedures. While the technique is relatively new for cataract surgery, our surgeons have the expertise to help provide superior outcomes and patient care.



## How it works

Ophthalmologists have been using femtosecond laser technology safely and successfully in LASIK surgery for more than a decade. Now, it's also available for treating cataracts — cloudy lenses inside eyes that can reduce vision and even cause blindness.

While traditional cataract surgery involves manually removing and replacing the lens with a new, artificial lens, femtosecond technology refines the cataract extraction, allowing for a more accurate and quicker process.

Using a touch-screen computer with 3-D imaging, the laser system helps with surgical planning, enabling eye surgeons to precisely program the size, shape and location of each incision. Surgeons can then guide the laser to create tiny, precise incisions in the eye through which the cloudy lens can be removed and a new, clear lens implanted. At the same time, the laser can correct common abnormal curvatures of the cornea (astigmatism) that can cause blurry vision.

## Is it right for you?

Cataract surgery may be right for you if you have a cataract that is causing your vision to interfere with daily life — particularly if you drive at night or have a job where good vision is essential. To qualify for femtosecond laser cataract surgery, you must also have surgically correctable astigmatism.

## What you can expect

Femtosecond laser cataract surgery usually takes less than an hour and is relatively painless.

1. Although patients remain awake during the procedure, they are given medicine to ensure they remain as comfortable as possible.
2. The femtosecond laser is positioned against the affected eye. The surgeon will direct the laser to create delicate incisions in the eye through which the cataract will be removed later. The laser also will reshape the curve of the cornea to correct astigmatism.
3. Next, the surgeon will view the eye under a microscope. He or she will remove the cataract manually and replace it with a new, clear synthetic lens.
4. Typically no sutures are needed and recovery is very quick, with patients able to go home the same day.

## Why Cleveland Clinic?

Ophthalmologists at Cleveland Clinic Cole Eye Institute are board-certified and have substantial experience with femtosecond laser cataract surgery as well as other sophisticated treatments. Our experts perform nearly 17,000 clinical procedures each year, among the highest patient volume in the nation.

Cole Eye Institute's ophthalmology program is consistently ranked among the Top 10 nationwide by *U.S. News & World Report* — and ranked No. 1 in Ohio.

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