

LASER EYE SURGERY TODAY

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Nowadays laser surgery is commonly used on eyes and most people are aware that such operations come with risks.

Millions of people have already had laser eye surgery and the majority are satisfied with the outcome (93% according to the ASCRS - American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery). Ninety-five percent of patients reported improved vision, and eighty-five percent said their quality of life improved.

So, the majority of people are pleased with their laser eye surgery and are glad they had it done. For a certain number, though, the surgery fails. Different studies give different estimates, but for 2%-3% of patients, either their vision does not improve or they experience some significant side effect. In addition many of the 97%-98% who do improve without complications still do not achieve 20-20 or better vision. These "partial successes" occur most often amongst people who had the weakest vision before the surgery.

Many of the possible complications associated with laser eye surgery can be avoided with proper screening to ensure that you are an appropriate candidate for laser eye surgery. Your doctor should test and examine your vision and explain the results to you. Most complications happen to patients that were not good candidates for laser eye surgery in the first place, including people with large pupils, thin corneas, severe astigmatism, or other eye health problems.

Moreover, this procedure is strongly not recommended for anyone who:

- is under 18
- is pregnant, and
- has a history of eye disease

Of course, different people may have different opinions on whether their eyesight problems require such treatment, but knowing a bit more in this area may help to make the correct decision. And what can be more informative than watching the operation with your own eyes!