



# Who You See MATTERS

We are honored that you have chosen to put your trust in our renowned eye surgeon and committed staff at The Eye Center. Your decision on where to go for cataract removal is an important one. You'll find confidence in not only our advanced custom cataract technology, but in the fact that Dr. Alfred takes a personalized approach to each patients' treatment plan. He takes the time to understand your goals and how to tailor your best vision for your lifestyle. The Eye Center offers a full range of multi-specialty medical and surgical eye care, including the latest advancements in cataract surgery, microsurgical techniques and lifestyle lenses.

### PIERRE ALFRED, MD

Dr. Alfred is a highly trained Board Certified Ophthalmologist specializing in cataract surgery, laser vision correction, dry eye disease and glaucoma.

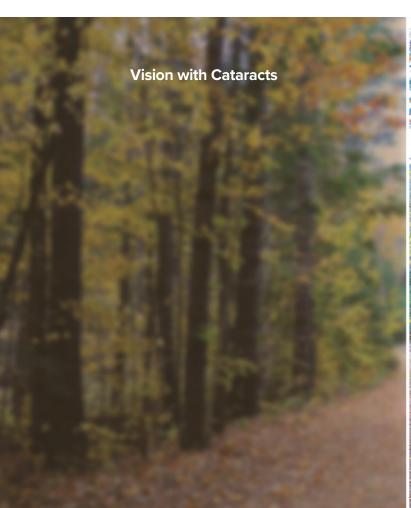
Dr. Alfred is passionate about the diagnosis and management of dry eye disease in our state-of-the-art Dry Eye Specialty Clinic. We utilize an incredible array of diagnostic and therapeutic tools to address the root cause of dry eye disease, with a treatment plan designed to provide real relief. Addressing dry eye disease prior to any surgical procedure, such as cataract surgery, is critical to ensuring exceptional results.

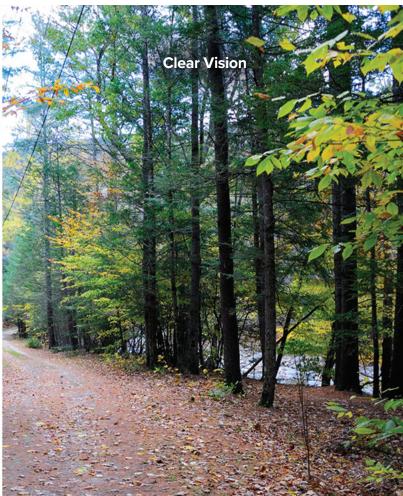


It's Dr. Alfred's reputation, experience, and credentials that set him apart in the field of ophthalmology. With a commitment to excellence, he is dedicated to providing outstanding vision care with the most proven treatments and technology, in a warm and caring environment.

"I was drawn to ophthalmology because it gives me the opportunity to help people improve, enhance, and protect their vision. But I like the idea that I'm restoring more than patients' vision. I'm restoring their ability to interact and appreciate the world around them - their loved ones and friends, the beauty of nature and the ability to see it all clearly."

# Putting Cataracts Into PERSPECTIVE







## **GOOD NEWS! YOU HAVE CATARACTS!**

You may be wondering why we would say such a thing. But the fact of the matter is, once it's time for cataract surgery, that's when you can choose the vision you want for the rest of your life!

### THE TRUTH

About Cataract Surgery



Over 24 million Americans currently have cataracts.



90% of people will develop cataracts
by age 65.



Cataract surgery
is the most frequently
performed surgical procedure
in the U.S.



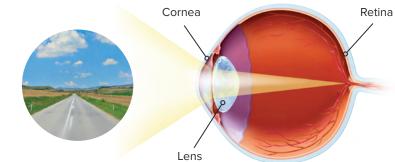
Standard cataract surgery is usually covered by medical insurance, including Medicare.

#### **Understanding Cataracts**

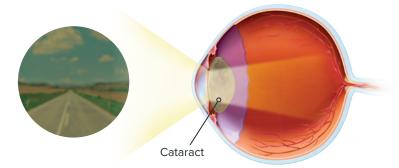
Cataracts usually occur as part of the natural aging process of the eye. While many people think that cataracts are a "film" over the eye, cataracts are actually caused by a gradual clouding of the clear, natural lens inside of the eye. As the clouding progresses over time, your vision becomes less sharp. Cataracts develop slowly and painlessly over time. In early stages, symptoms may be so mild that you may not even realize your vision is changing. However, as cataracts become more dense, you will experience one or more of the following symptoms:

- Blurry or cloudy vision
- Eyeglasses prescriptions that change often, or no longer work
- Colors appear dull and washed out
- Difficulty reading in low light
- Poor night vision
- Halos or glare around lights

#### **HEALTHY EYE**



#### **EYE WITH CATARACT**



#### **What Causes Cataracts?**

If we all live long enough, everyone will eventually develop cataracts as part of the natural aging process. However, some conditions can cause cataracts to develop earlier or more quickly such as glaucoma, diabetes, or an autoimmune disorder, consistent exposure to UV rays, eye injuries or surgeries, and smoking.



#### **STEP-BY-STEP**

Cataract surgery is typically a quick, outpatient procedure. With modern cataract surgery, there are no shots, no stitches, and no patches. You may be given mild medication to relax you, gentle drops will completely numb your eye, and you'll be awake and comfortable.

#### **Step One**



Through a micro-incision, Dr. Alfred will break up and gently remove the cloudy, cataract-affected lens.

#### **Step Two**



A new flexible lens implant is gently inserted into the eye, to replace your natural cloudy lens.

#### **Step Three**



With the cataract removed, and the new lens in place, light can once again travel clearly to the back of your eye.

### WHAT TO EXPECT AFTER SURGERY

For many patients, the clarity and color of their vision right after surgery is amazing and surprising. The day after your procedure, your eye is likely to feel somewhat itchy and sensitive to light. This typically subsides within a day or two. There are no patches or significant downtime.

Your initial vision will continue to improve during these first days as you get used to seeing things through your new lens. We will see you to check on your healing and to make sure that you're on the road to your best visual outcomes. After about a month, recovery should be complete and you will be back to fully living the life you love!

### **SCHEDULE YOUR EXAM TODAY!**

Call (978) 939-3128 or book online at eyecenterma.com.

# Take Control of YOUR VISION

## ADVANCEMENTS IN LENS TECHNOLOGY GIVES YOU THE OPTION TO SEE HOW YOU WANT TO LIVE.



#### Let's Talk About Reading Vision

Loss of near vision, or presbyopia, is another natural condition of aging. As we mature, we progressively lose the flexibility needed to focus on near objects and gradually develop the need for reading glasses or bifocals to see things clearly up close.

#### What About Astigmatism?

Astigmatism is a condition that affects about 36% of the US population. Astigmatism occurs when the cornea is oval, or shaped like a football, creating multiple points of focus on the retina. This condition causes blurry or double vision that can be difficult to correct with basic contact lenses and glasses.

# AT THE EYE CENTER, YOU HAVE OPTIONS.

When many of our patients discover that today's cataract surgery can not only eliminate cataracts but may also reduce or eliminate their dependence on eyeglasses and correct astigmatism, their worry actually turns into excitement!

Patients now have the option to enjoy more freedom from glasses and contacts after their cataract procedure. Many patients are excited to learn that they can reduce, and even eliminate, the need for glasses and contacts, allowing them to enjoy life to its fullest. When you have your comprehensive eye examination with us, we will discuss these options and help you determine which is best for your vision and your lifestyle.

#### 1. FULL RANGE OF VISION

Multifocal and extended depth-of-focus lenses are available at The Eye Center. These lenses can provide high quality vision for distance, intermediate and even in low-light and for near vision activities like reading a menu in a dimly lit restaurant or driving at night. These lens options provide the best option for the most independence from glasses!

#### 2. ASTIGMATISM CORRECTION

A Toric IOL is designed to correct moderate to high amounts of astigmatism to provide clear, crisp distance vision, even at night. With the most advanced Toric IOLs we are now also able to improve your near vision as well as reduce your dependence on glasses for most activities!

#### **Near Vision**

- ✓ Reading
- ✓ Shaving
- ✓ Applying Cosmetics

#### **Intermediate Vision**

- ✓ Computer Work
- ✓ Gardening
- ✓ Cooking

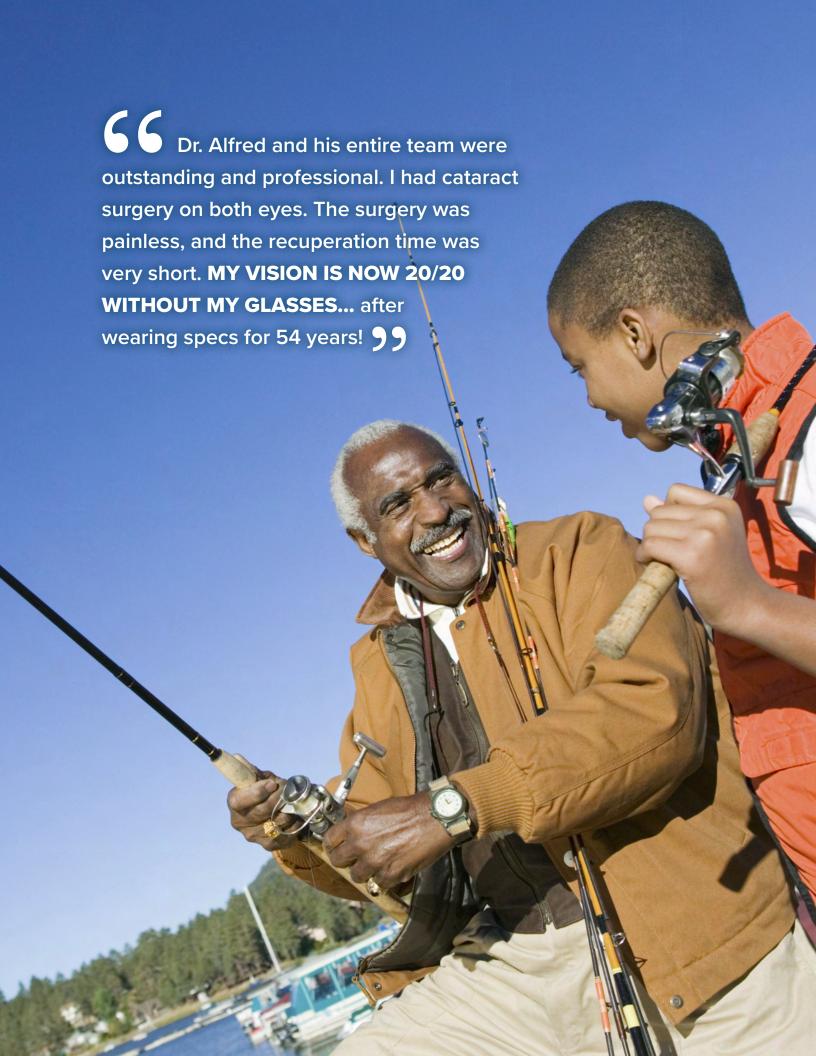
#### **Distance Vision**

- ✓ Driving
- ✓ Sports
- ✓ Television

#### **Astigmatism Correcting**

- ✓ Driving
- ✓ Reading in Dim Light
- ✓ Sports





# Questions and ANSWERS

#### When is it time for cataract surgery?

It's never too early to talk to your doctor about cataract surgery. During your thorough eye examination, Dr. Alfred will discuss the condition of your cataracts, a timeline for surgery, and your personalized options in detail. The term "ripe" no longer applies to cataracts. The time for surgery is when cataracts are causing a decrease in your vision that is affecting your ability to perform daily activities.

#### How do I know which lens is right for me?

While the characteristics of your eyes certainly play a critical role in lens selection, it's just as important to consider your lifestyle, and the role vision plays in the activities you enjoy. During your exam, Dr. Alfred will take the time to discuss your options and help you select the lens that will change the way you see the world!

#### Will I need to have cataract surgery again?

The lens replacement is permanent, offering you a lifetime of good vision. However, some patients will experience what's known as a "secondary cataract" which we can assure you is not an actual cataract. Over time a clouding of the tissue surrounding the lens may occur. Should this happen, a quick, in-office laser treatment is used to painlessly remove the cloudiness and restore clear vision.

#### **UNDERSTANDING YOUR BENEFITS**

Medicare and most insurance plans consider cataract surgery with a standard, monofocal lens medically necessary and will cover the expense. Deductibles, co-insurance and copays will apply. If you choose to improve your life and vision with a Lifestyle Lens, additional fees apply. Considering the freedom and visual benefits that come with these options for the rest of your life, many patients feel the additional cost is a worthwhile investment for their lifestyle. We offer financing options to help make your choice easier and more affordable. If you're suffering from blurry, cloudy, dull vision that just isn't what it used to be, there's no need to wait any longer!

#### **SCHEDULE YOUR EXAM TODAY!**

Call (978) 939-3128 or book online at eyecenterma.com.



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