

# YAG CAPSULOTOMY

## Patient information booklet



**Free local treatment within weeks not months**

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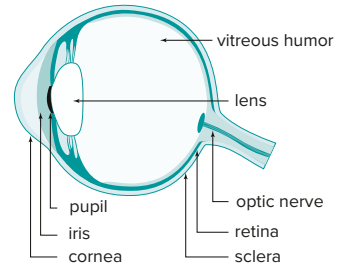
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# What is YAG Capsulotomy?

A YAG capsulotomy is one of the most performed surgical procedures. This laser eye surgery is necessary for many people who experience cloudy vision after cataract surgery.

People develop a cataract when the natural lens in the eye becomes cloudy. With cataract surgery an eye surgeon removes the cloudy lens and replaces it with an artificial one.

Also known as YAG laser treatment, this procedure corrects Posterior capsule opacification (PCO) which sometimes occurs following cataract surgery. YAG Capsulotomy is normal, patients who develop PCO experience a thickening of the back of the lens capsule. This occurs due to migration, proliferation, and differentiation of lens epithelial cells (LECS).



# How do you know if you need YAG surgery?

PCO is the most common postoperative complication that can occur within months to years after cataract surgery. Patients who develop PCO may believe their surgery was unsuccessful or that the cataract has returned. However, PCO is a different condition altogether and is relatively quick and easy to treat.

## Posterior Capsule Opacification Symptoms

Patients who develop posterior capsule opacification will notice the following symptoms:

- ✓ Blurred or cloudy vision in one or both eyes
- ✓ Difficulty with reading
- ✓ Decreased vision
- ✓ Impaired contrast
- ✓ Light sensitivity
- ✓ Glare or halos around lights, with bright lighting causing discomfort

## How do I get referred to Optegra?



If you feel like you are experiencing symptoms that may suggest you require YAG treatment following your cataract surgery, you can visit your local Optician or GP practice. Your optician will assess if you require treatment and will be able to refer you to Optegra. You do not need to be an Optegra cataract patient to have YAG laser surgery with us.

Once you have been referred to us by your GP or Optician, you will receive a mobile text to confirm receipt of referral, you will then be booked in for your pre-operative consultation with us.

## What happens during the YAG consultation?

During the consultation process one of our expert surgeons will assess your eyes thoroughly and inform you if you are suitable for YAG laser treatment.

Please bring all the pairs of glasses that you frequently wear and a copy of your most recent prescription if you have it. It is also useful for us to know about other medications that you are taking so it's worth noting these down before your appointment in case your consultant asks for this information. If you take Warfarin, please also bring your INR book.

You will have the opportunity to ask any questions you may have to provide you with the information required to proceed with YAG treatment or not.



## How does YAG Capsulotomy treatment work?

YAG capsulotomy uses a sophisticated laser to remove the thickening. This facilitates light to pass through to the back of the eye to help you see clearly.

Before your YAG laser treatment begins, we will check your vision and intraocular pressure. Eye drops are then applied to dilate the pupils and numb the eyes.

After the eye drops have had time to take effect, your head is placed comfortably for the YAG laser to begin work. The laser will remove a small area from the back of the clouded lens capsule.

Your surgeon will use the YAG laser to make a small opening in the middle of the capsule. These holes allow light to pass through the artificial lens to the back of the eye. The actual treatment is quick and painless, typically lasting for about 5 minutes.

After the treatment is finished, your eyes may feel a little dazzled from the laser. Your vision will gradually return over a period of 5 to 10 minutes. Expect your vision to remain blurry for a few hours following treatment, from the dilating drops.

## How long does it take to recover from YAG laser treatment?

With YAG laser treatment the recovery time is almost immediate. While it is advised to wait till the following day to resume normal activities, the YAG laser procedure is painless with your normal vision returning quickly. Most patients notice significant vision improvements within one day of the procedure.



# Meet our patients



Here is what our patients say about us on TrustPilot...

Jo was excellent. Detailed and careful explanation. Very happy with the service to date. Thank you.

- Shafeen Akbar

The actual procedure was painless. The recovery was very fast and I could see clearly as soon as my pupils returned to normal after the eye drops wore off.

- Gerry

I attended Optegra Eye Hospital Birmingham for a YAG Capsulotomy and I was extremely impressed by the friendliness, politeness and professionalism of all the staff there, in particular the consultant who performed the procedure and made me feel very much comfortable and reassured. I would definitely recommend them to anyone considering cataract surgery.

- Bernadette Danaher

Excellent service at Optegra Maidstone. I had my YAG laser treatment on Wednesday and I was home in under an hour. Drops, two scans and the laser surgery all performed and explained with care and attention. Thank you.

- Simon McGrahan

Had YAG laser treatment at Maidstone Optegra on 27/2/24 and was very impressed with the whole experience. Assessed, treated and all in well under two hours. All the staff were excellent with special thanks to Jo-Sheetal Thethy the optometrist who performed my YAG procedure.

- Geoff A

My vision in right eye is unbelievably clear. Await follow up for left now. You are put fully at ease by staff, whatever you are having done.

- Ian Goodwyn

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