You can depend on us.

We’re a full-service eye care practice assisted by an exceptionally qualified staff. Medical Eye Center was founded in 1921 on the principle of preserving the health of our patients and the quality of their vision through comprehensive eye care and surgical services.

Medical Eye Center

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Why YAG capsulotomy?
After cataract surgery, your vision can become cloudy, like it was when you had a cataract. This is sometimes called “after-cataract”. But it isn’t a new cataract. Instead, the posterior capsule, which holds the lens in place, becomes cloudy. Your eye doctor can most likely restore your vision. A laser treatment called YAG capsulotomy is used.

The YAG laser
For a capsulotomy, your doctor uses a YAG laser. The YAG laser delivers tiny, rapid bursts of energy. A special contact lens may be used to help focus the laser on the treatment spot. The laser passes through the front of the eye and the Lens Implant without harming them. When the laser reaches the posterior capsule, it makes a tiny opening. Light can then enter the eye again. Enough of the posterior capsule is left to hold the Lens Implant in place.

Your experience
YAG capsulotomy is done in your doctor’s office or at an outpatient surgery center. The treatment is quick and painless. And you can most often return to your normal routine right away. There are no needles, no stitches, and no risk of infection. Your vision will most likely be fully restored soon after treatment.

Possible risks
Laser treatment is safe, but know that there are some risks:
- Eye pressure may rise, usually only for a short time.
- The laser can nick the Lens Implant. But this almost never affects vision.
- Rarely, the retina may become detached.

Before capsulotomy
Ask your eye doctor whether you need to have someone drive you to and from your treatment. Most people see sharply again right away and go home shortly after treatment.

During capsulotomy
First, your eye is numbed and your pupil is dilated with drops. Then, you rest your chin on a stand in front of the laser machine. You may see flashes of light and hear a faint clicking sound as the laser enters your eye. But you should not feel any pain. You can help by staying relaxed and still.

After capsulotomy
You should begin to see better within a few hours. Your eye doctor may check your eye pressure later that day or the next. He or she may also give you eyedrops or an ointment. Once the posterior capsule has been opened, it won’t cause your vision to cloud again.