

# Yag laser capsulotomy

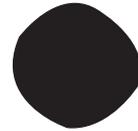
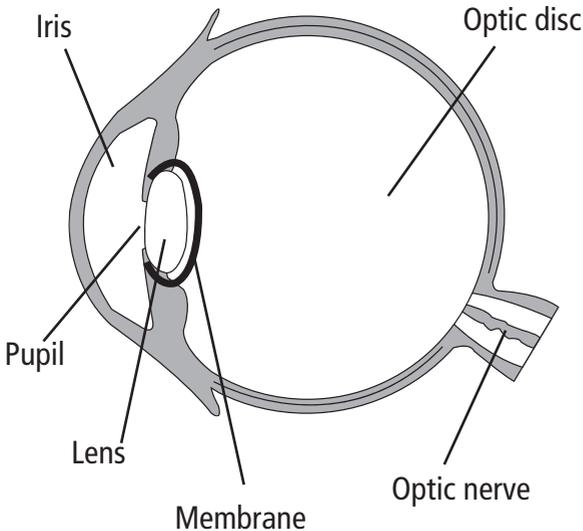


## Why do I need yag laser capsulotomy?

Following your cataract operation, the transparent membrane behind your lens implant may become cloudy, causing your vision to gradually worsen. This may occur weeks, months or even years after your procedure, and occurs in about 10 - 20% of all people treated.

Yag laser capsulotomy is a painless laser treatment used to make a hole in the membrane, bringing your vision back to its best possible level. The treatment takes about 10 minutes to perform and causes very little discomfort. You will need to bring someone with you as you will not be able to drive home. Please allow up to 60 minutes in total at the hospital.

## A cross section of the eye



Before yag laser treatment, thickened membrane



After yag laser treatment, hole made by yag laser to improve vision

## **What will happen if I don't have this treatment?**

Your vision may gradually deteriorate further (get worse).

## **Are there any risks or complications?**

Yag laser capsulotomy is considered to be a safe treatment. However, no procedure is completely without risk. Complications may arise including:

Common:

- Floaters

Rare:

- temporary raised pressure in your eye
- retinal detachment
- Macular Oedema

However, these are extremely rare, and can be treated effectively.

## **What does it involve?**

Your pupil will be dilated (enlarged) and as a result your vision may be disturbed for up to 6 hours. Please do not drive during this time.

On arrival at the hospital the treatment will be explained to you, and you will be asked to sign the consent form.

You will need to sit upright at the machine during the procedure. A beam of red light is used for positioning, before the laser treatment is applied. You may hear a clicking noise during the procedure, but you will feel no pain.

## What happens afterwards?

Some eye drops will be placed into your eye. You may then go home.

Your prescription glasses may need to be changed in 2 weeks time, and you will not need a follow up appointment.

## Contact us

If you are worried about your eye after the laser treatment, please contact the Eye Unit Nurse on: **01872 252324**

If you would like this leaflet in large print, braille, audio version or in another language, please contact the General Office on 01872 252690

