LASIK

Since LASIK was first approved in 1999, it has been regarded as a safe and successful method of vision correction. Because we are dedicated to providing our patient with the best possible vision, we offer both traditional LASIK and IntraLASIK, also known as Blade-free or All-laser LASIK.

Traditional LASIK uses a device known as a microkeratome, where a surgical blade creates a hinged flap of thin corneal tissue. The flap is then opened like a page on a book and gently folded to one side to expose just below the cornea's surface. To be a good candidate for traditional LASIK, the cornea must be of sufficient thickness to allow for the flap to be made and still have enough tissue under the flap to allow for the proper amount of tissue to be removed for the targeted level of correction. Patients with severe dry eye symptoms, very thin corneas, or other conditions, such as the beginning stages of a cataract may be better candidates for blade-free LASIK or other refractive procedures.

Blade-free, or All-laser LASIK uses a laser to create a flap with laser energy instead of a microkeratome blade. In seconds, with computer precision and high-speed delivery, the laser produces over a million tiny micron-sized baffles that gently separate the layers of corneal tissue and creates a customized flap. The use of a laser allows us to customize the flap to the desired thickness, size, orientation and location. This unprecedented level of control makes blade-free LASIK that much safer and allows more patients to qualify for this procedure.

The final step in your LASIK procedure uses the excimer laser, either custom treatment or conventional, to reshape the underlying tissue. The surgeon then replaces the corneal flap over the treated area where it bonds securely, without the need for stitches. With less surface are to heal than a surface ablation, LASIK patients recover very quickly and most experience little, if any, discomfort. Functional vision returns very rapidly, with the majority of patients seeing well enough to drive in a day or two without contacts or glasses.

Custom treatments have the potential to improve your quality of vision, and make you see even better than you could with glasses or contact lenses. This is because until recently, excimer lasers treated patients strictly based on their optical prescription, despite the fact that their eyes each have a unique set of naturally occurring optical imperfections. This is knows as a conventional laser treatment.

Wavefront technology compares distorted waves of light exiting the eye to the flat waves of light that would have returned if the eye had a perfect optical system. This information is used to

create a 3D map that guides the excimer laser while reshaping the cornea.

We specialize in true custom treatments, which offer the best chance of obtaining maximum quality laser vision correction. The wavescan's unique "fingerprint" of each individual's eye are transferred directly to the laser to give the optimum treatment possible.