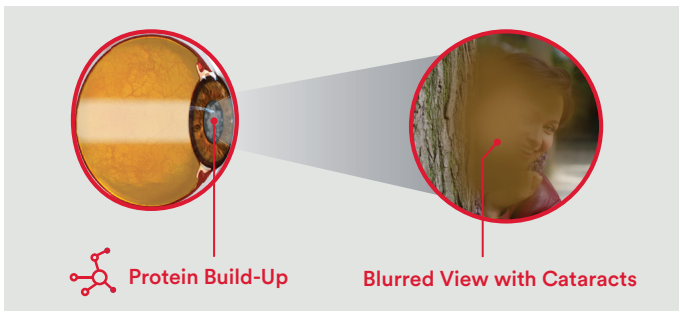






Cataract

Fast Facts

A cataract is a clouding of the normally clear lens of the eye. A healthy lens is made of water and proteins, and is crystal clear so light can pass through.¹ With age or certain conditions, the proteins clump together and cloud the lens, leading to blurry, foggy or completely impaired vision.²



By the Numbers

- Cataracts are the No. 1 cause of preventable blindness worldwide³ 
- At least 100 million eyes have a cataract causing compromised visual acuity⁴ 
- Approximately 20 million people are blind from age-related cataracts⁴ 
- 30 million people are expected to have cataracts by 2021⁵ 

Cataract Symptoms⁶

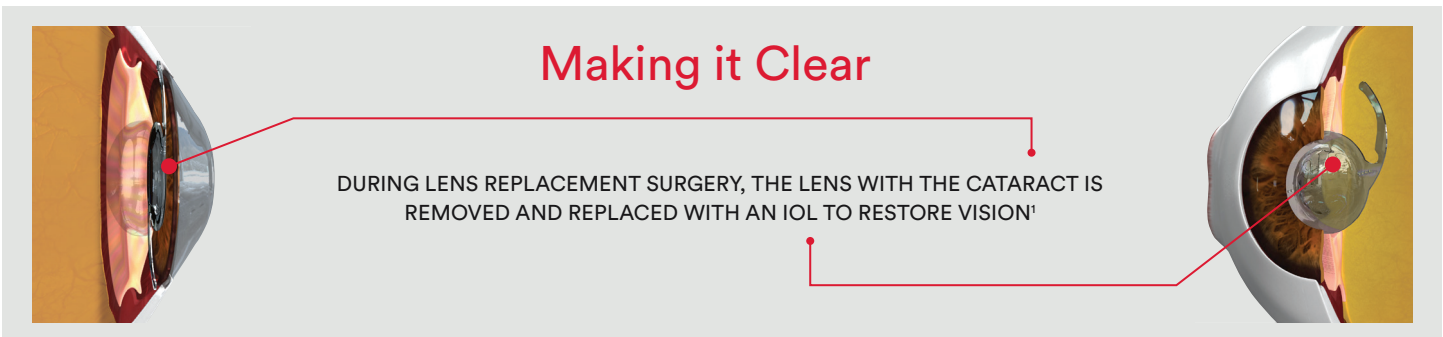
Cataracts are a part of the normal aging of the eye. Everyone - if they live long enough - will likely get cataracts at some point in their life. They form slowly and can include:

- Clouded or blurred vision 
- Poor night vision 
- Light sensitivity 
- Double vision 

Diagnosis & Treatment

An eye doctor can diagnose a cataract during a thorough eye exam.¹ If loss of vision interferes with day-to-day activities, lens replacement is an effective treatment for cataracts.¹ In fact, cataract surgery is the most commonly performed surgical procedure in the world.⁷

There are several types of cataract surgery. In all procedures, vision is restored by surgically removing the affected lens and replacing it with a manmade lens known as an intraocular lens (IOL).⁸



¹Cataracts. All About Vision. <http://www.allaboutvision.com/conditions/ataracts.htm>. ²Cataracts. Cleveland Clinic. <http://my.clevelandclinic.org/health/articles/ataracts>. ³Priority Eye Diseases. World Health Organization. <http://www.who.int/blindness/causes/priority/en/index1.html>. ⁴Vision 2020: The Cataract Challenge. National Center for Biotechnology Information. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC1705965>. ⁵Annual Global IOL Procedures Are Expected to Reach Nearly 30 Million by 2020. Market Scope. <https://market-scope.com/pressrelease/annual-global-iol-procedures-are-expected-reach-nearly-30-million-by-2020>. ⁶Cataracts. Symptoms & Causes. Mayo Clinic (2016). <https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/ataracts/symptoms-causes/syc-20353790>. ⁷The Journey to Femtosecond Laser-Assisted Cataract Surgery: New Beginnings or False Dawn?. Trikha S, Turnbull AM, Morris RJ, Anderson DF, Hossain P. (Cataracts, 2016) <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3625999>. ⁸Cataract Surgery. All About Vision. <http://www.allaboutvision.com/conditions/ataract-surgery.htm>.