Information for patients undergoing LasEK

In anticipation of laser eye surgery, you are likely to feel anxious and have many questions or concerns. At Pima Eye Institute we offer a free consultation, at which time you meet with Dr. Ajay Sanan. If you have any questions or concerns, this is a great opportunity to let us know. We are always interested in your comments and strive to make this as comfortable and as pleasant an experience as possible.

General Planning
Examination Before Laser Surgery

Before your laser treatment, your eye will be evaluated and several essential measurements will be taken of your eyes. In particular, the degree of nearsightedness or farsightedness and astigmatism will be measured using the most accurate methods available. The curvature of your cornea will be measured by two devices, a keratometer and topography. A pachymeter will be used to measure the thickness of the cornea to ensure enough tissue is available to safely have the Lasik procedure.

Depending on previous evaluation done by either us or other physicians, your pupils may or may not be dilated at this visit. You will have a chance to fully read consent forms which explain the risk and alternatives to laser vision correction. Dr. Ajay Sanan will answer all your questions fully at this time.

Contact Lenses

Contact lenses can temporarily change the shape of your cornea which can alter the amount of nearsightedness, farsightedness or astigmatism. We want to be certain that your eye is in it's true natural condition before any final measurements are taken. If you wear soft contact lenses, you should discontinue wear one week prior to your final examination before your laser eye surgery. If you wear rigid gas permeable, hard contacts, or soft toric contact lenses, you should discontinue these at least three weeks prior to final examination. In some cases you will need an extended period of time out of these type of lenses. The goal is to ensure that the laser is optimally programmed for your native level of correction.

Billing

Prior to your surgical procedure you will be asked to pay the total surgical fee or to make arrangement through CareCredit. Learn more by visiting CareCredit.com or contacting our office. Ready to apply? Apply online for your CareCredit card today. Apply Now
Location of Surgery

Your laser vision surgery will be performed by Dr. Ajay Sanan, M.D., at the Arizona Eye Laser Center. We will select the laser and type of treatment best suited for safest and optimal outcome for the condition of your eyes and your needs.

It is important that you, Do NOT wear any perfume or cologne on the day of your laser eye surgery. These can affect the accuracy of the laser. Do NOT wear any makeup of any kind on the day of your laser eye surgery. The makeup can sometimes get into your tear film and make the procedure more difficult.

Please bring someone with you who can drive you home after your laser procedure.

The Procedure
  Surgery Day

Upon arrival at the Arizona Eye Laser Center you will be asked to fill out some additional information. Some initial images will be taken of your eyes. Any additional measurements will be taken at this time. Drops will be administered to anesthetize or numb your eye. Antibiotic drops will also be administered.

Throughout the surgery, Dr. Sanan will keep your informed and talk you through the procedure. An epithelial flap will then be created. You will then be asked to look at the fixation light. The laser has a built in tracking system that makes sure the laser treatment is applied in the proper location. Once the laser treatment is competed, additional drops will be administered and a contact lens will be placed in your eye.

Evening following Surgery

We have found that keeping your eye moist on the evening following surgery will greatly reduce the discomfort after your LasEk procedure. Keeping your eyes gently closed, as much as possible, for the first 8 hours after surgery is recommended. Take a nap as soon as you get home. When your eyes are opened, be sure to blink slowly and completely.

Discomfort
It is typical to experience some mild to moderate discomfort as well as some “scratchiness”. Slightly more discomfort expressed by patients with the LasEk than with Lasik. Tylenol, aspirin or Advil can be taken as needed to relieve any discomfort. You may also use the eye drops provided to help relieve the discomfort.

**Appointments**

You will need to been the next day following your laser procedure. At this time your vision will be checked and Dr. Sanan will examine your eyes. You may be required to be seen daily 2-4 days following LasEk. Subsequent appointments will be scheduled for about 1 week, 1 month, 3 month, these appointments may vary according to your particular circumstances.

**Activity**

Be careful not to rub or bump the eye. A shield will be provided and should be worn for the first 4 nights following your laser procedure. No Swimming for 3 weeks following any type of laser eye surgery. Showering is fine, although, you should avoid getting soap or water in your eye for the first few days following your surgery.

**Vision**

Visual recover can vary for each individual patient. Most LasEk patients have useful vision within a week. Fluctuations in vision may occur during the first 1-2 months following your surgery. For some, vision will actually continue to improve in the first few months after surgery.