

INFORMATION ABOUT THE MEASUREMENT OF IMPLANT STRENGTH INTRACULAR LENS BIOMETRY (A-SCAN)

Prior to cataract removal, the length of your eye must be measured in order to calculate the strength of the intraocular lens implant which you require. Our practice has evaluated the most modern instruments available for this test, and we use the technology which we have found to be most accurate. A small instrument is placed in front of your eye, and this emits sound or light waves that travel to the back of the eye and then are reflected back to the instrument. The computer receives the waves as they return, and automatically calculates the length of the eye.

While the test is very accurate in the vast majority of patients, some inaccuracy may occasionally occur. This is usually caused by an abnormal eye contour which causes scattering of the waves. The measurement of the length of the eye then becomes more of an estimate, and this may mean that the intraocular lens strength recommended by the computer is not totally accurate. Also, the effect of the implant on your vision can vary depending upon another factor which is not completely predictable. As the eye heals, the implant can shift very slightly toward the front or back of the eye. The amount of shift is not the same in everyone, and may cause you to see differently than what may have been predicted by the measurements before surgery.

These problems occur only in a small percentage of patients, and are usually solved simply by wearing an eyeglass (that is different from the prescription that was expected to be necessary) to complete the focusing of light rays. Rarely, however, the implant strength may be inaccurate to the extent that surgical replacement of the implant is the best method to correct the situation. Fortunately, even in these rare circumstances, this replacement is usually simple. Furthermore, the true implant strength required is easily determined in such a situation, and proper focusing of the light rays after implant replacement is a virtual certainty.

I have read and understand the above information and understand the possible inaccuracy of the implant strength measurement, and I have no further questions regarding this matter.

Patient Signature

Date