

Patient Testimonials



Being a competitive professional athlete, I'm always looking for professionals to match my skill. For LASIK eye surgery, I found the Turner Eye Institute to be the best choice. For me, my family, and friends, the surgeons there are definitely the eye surgeons I trust.

Jacoby Ford
Oakland Raiders

"A twenty minute procedure has changed my life...I can SEE! Thank you for everything!"

Steven Silas
NBA Coach



Recently my mom had LASIK eye surgery at the Turner Eye Institute. My fiance was so impressed, she too made the decision to have LASIK surgery. The surgeons at the Turner Eye Institute did an incredible job. Now they are both enjoying the benefits of perfect vision. Thanks to the surgeons, and the staff at the Turner Eye Institute.



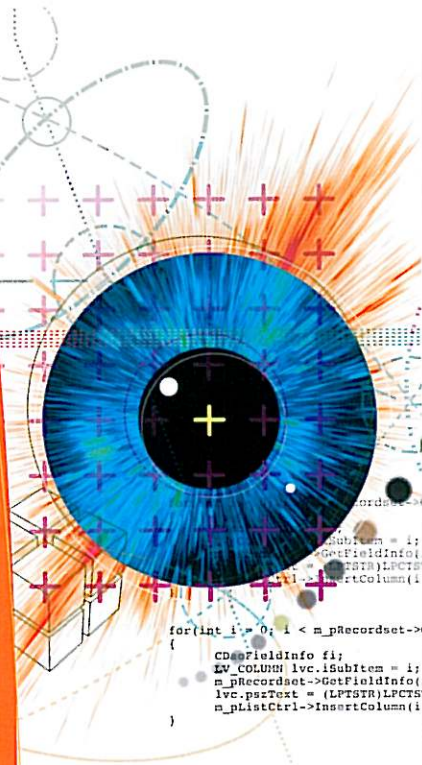
David Lee
Forward, Golden State Warriors

Co-management

Co-management is the term used to describe the co-operative care of patients between primary eye care providers and ophthalmologists. At the Turner Eye Institute, we have one of the largest networks of expert primary eye care providers throughout Northern California. These highly skilled professionals have been selected based upon their experience, community reputation and the ability to provide the finest quality care in both the pre-operative work up and the post-operative management of refractive surgery patients.

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Chirag Patel, MD

Dr. Chirag Patel grew up in the Bay Area and received his undergraduate degree with High Honors from the University of California, Berkeley followed by a Doctorate of Medicine from the University of California, San Diego. He performed his residency in Ophthalmology at the Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville, Tennessee where he was bestowed with the honor of Chief Resident. He then spent an additional year to further his ophthalmologic training with a Fellowship in Cornea, External Disease, and Refractive Surgery at the prestigious New York Eye and Ear Infirmary in Manhattan. Excited to move back home, Dr. Patel returned to the Bay Area and joined Turner Eye Institute in 2012.



"I feel blessed to be able to practice in a field of medicine that is so highly rewarding. The restoration of vision and the immense impact this has on quality of life provides the utmost sense of gratification both for me and my patients."

Dr. Patel specializes in the diagnosis and treatment of diseases of the cornea, anterior segment, and lens. He particularly enjoys cataract/intraocular lens surgery, refractive procedures (including LASIK and PRK), keratoconus treatments and corneal transplantation including cutting edge techniques such as partial thickness transplants.

Dr. Patel is a member of numerous medical associations including the American Academy of Ophthalmology (AAO), American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery (ASCRS), Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO), and The Cornea Society.

Refractive Error

The eye's ability to refract or focus light sharply is based on two main anatomic features: the overall length of the eye and the curvature of the eye's surface or cornea. Eyeglasses and contact lenses are fabricated with precise curvatures, which help offset flaws in our eyes optical system. Many of today's vision correction surgeries such as LASIK also aim to correct refractive errors (nearsightedness, farsightedness, astigmatism) by changing the shape of our cornea so that light rays are in focus.

The LASIK Procedure

LASIK is the most commonly performed refractive surgery procedure. In this procedure, our surgeons use a precision instrument called a microkeratome or the femtosecond laser to create a thin flap at the top of your cornea, which is lifted up, but remains attached at one side. Next, the excimer laser is programmed to correct your specific refractive error, removing a microscopic layer of cornea. This part of the procedure takes less than one minute. The corneal flap is put back into place and due to its natural bonding properties healing starts immediately. No stitches are required.

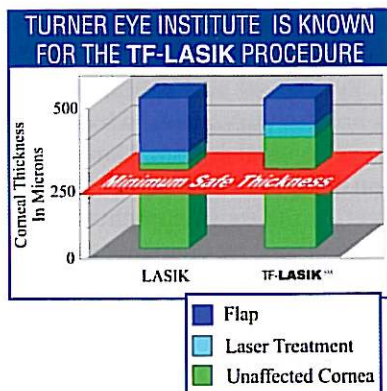


PRK

Photorefractive Keratectomy (PRK) is a surgical procedure performed with the excimer laser. In PRK, the laser is preset to vaporize portions of tissue on the surface of the cornea. No flap is created. The pattern and amount of tissue removed is determined by the amount of correction needed. Dr. Turner and Dr. Patel will prescribe medication postoperatively to help with the healing process.



TF-LASIK



This is an advanced form of LASIK developed in 2001, by Dr. Stephen Turner of the Turner Eye Institute, on behalf of his patient's safety. TF-LASIK increases safety for the patient because there is more cornea left unaffected by the procedure. Our surgeons are able to consistently create a thinner flap which leaves behind more corneal tissue. This reduces the risk of corneal ectasia, a type of distortion of the cornea. In addition, many patients having TF-LASIK experience faster recovery times.

Benefits of TF-LASIK

- Increased safety
- Leaves more cornea tissue which enables us to correct higher prescriptions
- Cornea is less prone to post-operative distortion
- Less post-operative dryness
- Low intra-operative flap complications

Alternative Refractive Procedures

Intacs for Keratoconus

Keratoconus is a degenerative non-inflammatory disorder of the eye in which structural changes within the cornea cause it to thin. This creates a steepening and coning like shape of the cornea. The change in the cornea's shape can have a dramatic impact on one's vision. Although keratoconus rarely results in total blindness, 20% of all patients with this condition will – at some time – undergo a corneal transplant. Intacs - corneal implants - is an FDA approved option used to stabilize the cornea, improve vision and potentially defer the need for corneal transplant. Intacs consist of two small clear crescent shaped pieces that are inserted into the cornea causing the cornea to flatten out, resulting in reduction of astigmatism, and ultimately improving the vision by stabilizing the cornea. At the Turner Eye Institute we have been performing the intacs implants for 14 years, with great results. We have saved many of our patients from corneal transplants. This procedure usually takes about 15 to 30 minutes. Following the procedure, a bandage therapeutic contact lens is placed over the eye for a few days for comfort.

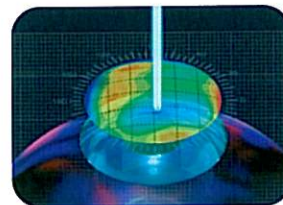


Visian ICL

This lens is used for patients with high degrees of nearsightedness or farsightedness. Patients must be over 18 years of age. Over 1 million procedures have been performed worldwide thus far. The results have shown this lens implant to be safe and an effective way to treat high degrees of refractive error for patients that are not good candidates for laser vision correction. The procedure involves placing the phakic IOL between your cornea and your natural lens. This gives your eye another focusing lens that provides high quality and high definition vision, like a normal eye. Although the phakic IOLs are intended to be permanent, the procedure is reversible if desired. Implanting the phakic IOL is an outpatient procedure that takes around 15 to 30 minutes. Usually, one eye is treated at a time.



Custom LASIK

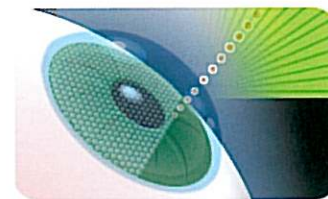


Custom LASIK utilizes WaveFront technology to measure your eyes. Digital technology identifies and measures imperfections in your eye 25 times more precisely than is possible with conventional methods. These measurements create a customized treatment "map" for the laser. The laser is programmed with the WaveFront information, giving the patient a treatment that is tailored to their individual visual needs. Custom LASIK can help individuals achieve their best possible vision, typically 20/20 or better.

Bladeless All Laser LASIK

Ziemer Femtosecond & IntraLASE 60-FS Laser Technology

This breakthrough, computer controlled, all-laser technique that utilizes either the Ziemer Femtosecond Laser or IntraLASE software, provides our surgeons with a high technology, blade-free approach to creating the corneal flap in laser vision correction surgery. The results are unparalleled safety for the patient and unprecedented control for our surgeons. The corneal flap procedure is customized according to each individual patient's vision disorder and corneal anatomy.



The Ziemer and IntraLASE platforms provide remarkable accuracy, and may enable patients who have previously been dismissed as high risk due to a thin cornea, to be re-evaluated for vision correction surgery.

Cataract

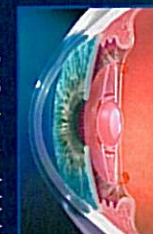
A cataract is a clouding of the natural lens of the eye which impairs vision and subsequently must be removed surgically. Dr. Patel will extract the old cloudy lens and replace it with an artificial lens. The exact same procedure can be performed as a form of refractive surgery when a lens is not clouded in order to change optical power as a way to correct nearsightedness or farsightedness. This procedure is called a refractive lens exchange (RLE).

Intraocular Lens

An intraocular lens (IOL) is an implanted lens. It is used to replace the eye's natural crystalline lens in cases where the crystalline lens has become cloudy. This will allow your distance vision to become clear again with a monofocal lens implant. Today, thanks to advanced technology, you can opt to have a special lens implanted that will allow you to see clearly – near, far and all distances in-between.

Crystalens

Crystalens is a cataract replacement lens that works naturally with your eye muscles to give you the focusing and quality of vision you enjoyed when you were younger. It is the first and only accommodating IOL in the United States. The design element that makes Crystalens the state-of-the-art replacement lens are "hinges" which are designed to allow the lens to move, or accommodate, to focus on objects near, far and all distances in-between.



Multifocal Intraocular Lens (IOL)

This unique technological innovation can provide quality vision throughout the entire visual spectrum, near through distance, with increased independence from reading glasses or bifocals. As we perform daily activities such as reading, watching television, or working at the computer our eyes are constantly looking at objects at varying distances – this premium lens allows you to see clearly – near, far and all distances in-between.