

**Risks**

It is a safe procedure done routinely in the hospital. Although rare, complications may include the following:

1. Brief rise in intra ocular pressure. (Pressure in the eye).
2. Increased risk of retinal detachment if the retina is weak.
3. Retinal swelling.
4. Dislocation of the implant.
5. Pitting on the implant.
6. Flare up of existing inflammation.

**Therefore, if you experience any of the symptoms below you must telephone the Eye Care Centre immediately.**

1. Severe eye pain which is not controlled after taking pain killers.
2. Flashing lights when you move the eye
3. A dark curtain coming across and blocking your vision
4. Sudden blurring in vision

**Follow up**

If a follow up appointment is needed, this will be arranged for you within 2 to 6 weeks.

If you have any questions, please clarify with the doctor/nurse on the day of your laser appointment.

**Questions? Make a note here**

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This leaflet is available in audio, braille and other languages. To request a copy please call **01270 273104.**

**Eye Care Centre**

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Telephone: 01270 255141  
and ask for bleep 2080  
[www.mcht.nhs.uk](http://www.mcht.nhs.uk)



**YAG Laser Capsulotomy**



Information for patients



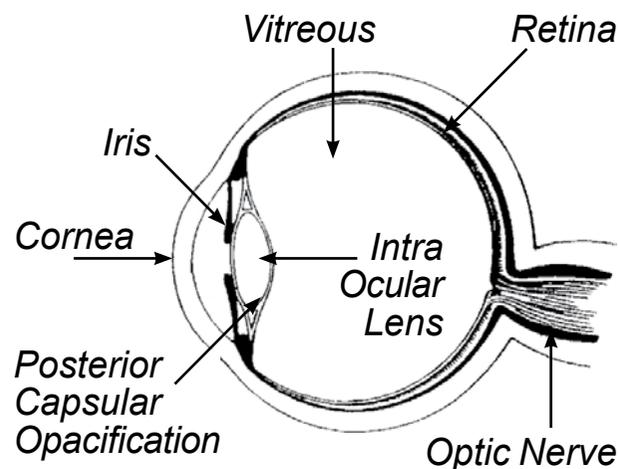
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Yag laser capsulotomy is the only non-surgical procedure available anywhere to make an opening the cloudy capsule. This allows more light to enter your eye, increasing the vision.

### Why do I need this?

During cataract surgery, when we remove your cloudy lens, we leave behind part of the bag (posterior capsule) of the lens to support the new intra ocular lens implant in place.

In the post-operative period, this capsule can become opaque and reduce vision. This opacity can start within a few months after cataract surgery and occurs in many people.



*Cross section of eye viewed from side (YAG)*

After examining you, your Ophthalmologist has noted that you have got thickening and cloudiness of the posterior capsule of the lens in your eye (posterior capsular opacification) which may be contributing to dimness of vision.

### The Procedure

- Procedure is done in the Eye Care Centre at Leighton Hospital.
- On the day of the procedure you may eat and drink as usual.
- A nurse will put drops into the eye to dilate your pupil. Once the pupil is dilated, you are taken to the laser room where local anaesthetic drops are put into the eye.
- The doctor will explain the treatment to you and ask you to sign a consent form.
- The doctor will position you comfortably in the chair.
- You have to sit still with your forehead against a bar and your chin on the chin rest.
- You will see bright lights and hear clicking noises.
- You should not feel any pain.

- The lasering takes about 10 minutes.
- You may be given eye drops and medication, to prevent a high pressure in the eye.
- You may be asked to wait for an hour after treatment for a pressure check.

### After the procedure

Due to the use of dilating drops and dazzle from the laser, your vision will be blurred initially. Visual recovery starts in a few hours. As your vision may be blurred for a period of time after the procedure you should arrange transport home and **not** drive yourself. In the days following laser surgery you may see floaters, which should progressively disappear.

### Expected outcome of treatment

The posterior capsule opening made with laser aims to improve the vision lost as a result of capsule opacification only. If the vision is already lost due to retinal problems or optic nerve damage, you may not notice any improvement.