

INSIGHTFUL ANSWERS ABOUT iLASIK™

What is the difference between iLASIK vs PRK?

The biggest difference between iLASIK and PRK is that iLASIK involves the creation of a thin-flap within the cornea. This flap is then folded back and a laser is used to reshape the eye to improve vision. This flap is then replaced and the eye begins healing. In PRK no flap is created. The epithelium, or thin skin layer on the cornea, is gently removed and a laser is applied to reshape the eye. A protective contact lens is then placed and the eye begins healing. The results of iLASIK and PRK are the same, however the recovery of iLASIK is quicker than PRK. Most patients having iLASIK are able to return to work the next day, while patients having PRK are typically

able to return to work four to five days after treatment.

What's the cost?

The cost for iLASIK or PRK is typically around \$2,000. It depends on which Vision Plan you choose. We offer a Standard plan or an Extended plan. Our philosophy is to provide great results through outstanding experience and technology at a fair price. Whenever appropriate, we utilize iDesign wavefront-guided technology. This system is 5-times more precise than previous wavefront technologies and 25-times more precise than conventional measurements. We are also the only provider in South Dakota to provide an extended enhancement plan.

Does iLASIK hurt?

Numbing eye drops are administered

prior to surgery, so most patients having iLASIK do not experience pain. There is some pressure during the creation of the flap, this step takes 10-15 seconds. Following iLASIK, once the numbing eye drops wear off, most patients experience light sensitivity, irritation, watery eyes and a dry or scratchy feeling for a few hours.

Does PRK hurt?

Numbing eye drops are administered prior to surgery, so most patients having PRK do not experience pain. Following PRK, once the numbing eye drops wear off, most patients experience light sensitivity, irritation, watery eyes and a dry or scratchy feeling for a few hours. Patients having PRK tend to have more discomfort, for a longer period of time, than patients having iLASIK. This is managed with medications and eye drops.

We are fortunate to have such an experienced laser vision team. We have treated thousands of eyes and helped many See Life Clearly! We will take great care of you and your eyes. Dr. Scott Schirber answers the questions most patients ask before deciding to take the next step.

Can I feel the laser?

You will not be able to feel the laser reshaping your eye. You will, however, be able to smell the vapor this laser creates. Most laser treatments are between 15 and 45 seconds.

What happens if I move my eye?

iLASIK and custom PRK utilize advanced tracking technologies that monitor your eye position hundreds of times a second. If your eye moves, the laser works to keep the treatment aligned. The surgeon is also monitoring the treatment.

When can I...

Go back to work? iLASIK the next day, PRK generally 4-5 days. With PRK the

vision at this stage is "functional" but not perfect. **Wear Makeup?** One week after either iLASIK or PRK. **Exercise?** One day after either iLASIK or PRK, although vigorous exercise is to be avoided for one week.

Visit our website for more information and to take our quick self-test to see if you may be a candidate:

LasikRapidCity.com
or call 605.341.2000 to set up your **FREE** consultation!

BLACK HILLS REGIONAL
EYE INSTITUTE



Scott Schirber, OD



Stephen Khachikian, MD

Your Laser Vision Team



sports are more enjoyable now.
~ Jenna Zanter

love the crisp/clear vision!
~ TJ Wojtanowicz

it has changed my life.
~ Chad Meissner

no more headaches from contacts!
~ Shanna Hockert