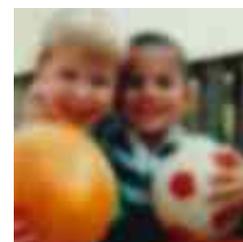




Cataracts

1. Your eye works like a camera. It depends on clear vision through a clear lens. When the eye's lens becomes cloudy, it is called a cataract. This often causes blurry vision.
2. A cataract may occur in the **center** of the lens. This often causes near-sightedness or "second sight." This makes it harder to see objects far away; objects close up are easier to see. It also causes a blurry image. These cataracts may take many years to get to the point where they interfere with vision.
3. A cataract can also occur in the **outer part** of the lens. This type often does not blur vision for several years. If they do cause symptoms, this happens at night when the pupils are larger. Light scatter around street lights or headlights results.
4. If a cataract occurs at the **back part** of the lens, it causes the most blur. It can grow as quickly as a few months. It may cause the worst glare. Even a small amount of clouding in this area can cause major problems with vision.
5. Cataracts often blur vision and cause glare. Glare happens both with driving and at night. Sunglasses and tints to reduce glare are often helpful. When activities of daily life are significantly interfered with, cataract surgery can remove the cloudy lens and replace it with a clear intraocular lens.
6. Your next visit at the Eye Clinic is in _____ months and is scheduled for _____.



View with Cataract

Please call the VA Northwest Network Call Center at 1-888-233-8305 with any problems or questions. They are available 7 days a week, 24 hours a day. They can advise you and can contact the eye doctor on-call for emergencies