

BECAUSE THERE IS
SO MUCH TO SEE.

Photo: Dr. Burjor Banaji
Glacier - Eastern Karakorum

Clear cornea incision, No stitches, No eye patch

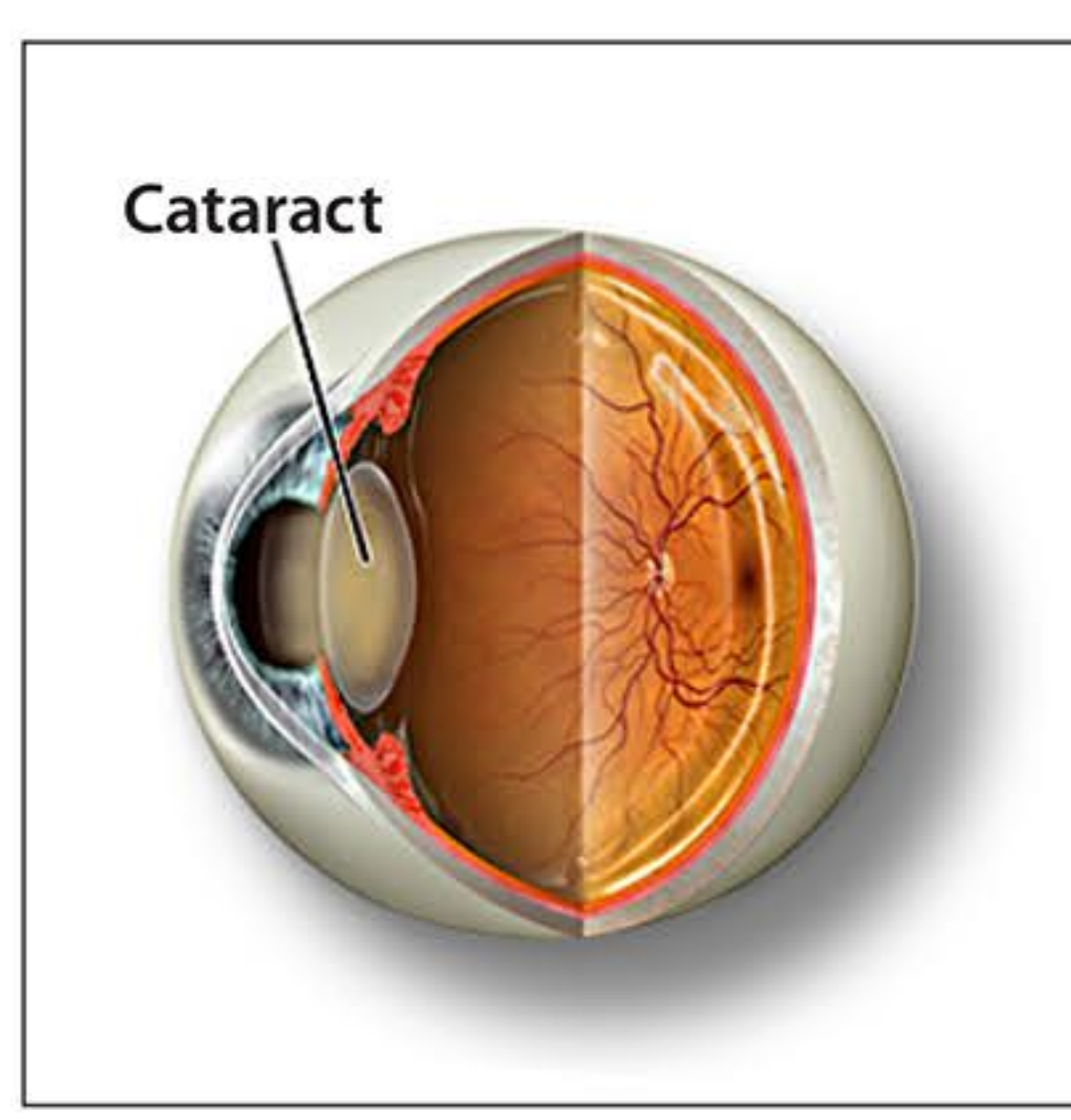
The latest advances in cataract surgery

With the formation of cataract, activities like reading, watching TV or driving can be difficult. Fortunately, vision can be restored quickly, allowing the patient to return home within a few hours. With new advances in cataract surgery, vision improvement is noticed almost immediately and an eye patch isn't even needed. A cataract is the clouding of the lens of the eye. Normally, light passes through the clear lens and is focused onto the retina. However, as a result of the natural aging process, the lens gradually becomes cloudy. The cataract or cloudy lens blocks the passage of light through the eye and causes distorted or blurred vision.

Restoring vision

Once a cataract has been diagnosed, the most effective way to restore vision is to remove the cloudy cataract and replace it with a plastic or soft foldable Silicone/Acrylic lens implant (intraocular lens or IOL).

With recent advances in cataract surgery equipment and techniques,



vision can be restored safer and faster, allowing patients at **Banaji Eyecare** to resume normal activities within hours after surgery. Using these state of the art tectonics, cataract surgery has a success rate greater than 98%.

Topical or no needle anesthesia

Previously, cataract surgery was performed under general anesthesia requiring patients to stay in the hospital. Later advances used a local anesthesia where a needle puncture was made, penetrating just behind the eyeball.

Although this procedure allows patients to return home the same day and is safer than using general anesthesia, it is not

entirely free of risk. Today, with recent advances in cataract surgery anesthesia, topical anesthetics are used. A patient may be given an I.V. sedative to help them relax and to keep them comfortable during the procedure. Next, the eye is anesthetized with eye drops instead of a local injection.

Advantages of topical anesthesia

- Faster with greater patient comfort.
- No Patient anxiety over receiving a deep injection next to the eyeball.
- Visual Recovery begins immediately since the eye muscles aren't paralyzed as with local block anesthesia.
- Eliminates potential complications such as perforation of the eye, hemorrhage or damage to the optic nerve.
- Removes the chance of a relatively dangerous anesthesia induced allergic reaction.
- Eliminates potential for postoperative headaches caused by conventional blocks.
- Eliminates need for an eye patch

No stitch, self sealing incision surgery

Ultrasound technology (Phacoemulsification or "Phaco") is used to remove cataract.

After surgery

Many patients are pleased to find that after topical, clear corneal cataract surgery at **Banaji Eyecare**, that their vision improvement begins almost immediately and they return home within a few hours after the procedure. Patients usually find their vision better than ever. However, some will need to wear glasses for reading and other activities following the procedure. During the initial healing period, there may be few limitations to strenuous activities. However, most patients from the **Banaji Eyecare** find they are able to return to a normal lifestyle immediately, plus start doing things poor cataract vision had restricted them from doing in the past.

Secondary cataracts

During cataract surgery a clear capsule surrounding the cataract is left in place to support the lens implant. In some cases this capsule may turn cloudy

With "phaco", the probe is inserted through a sub 2.5 millimeter opening (instead of a relatively wide incision) created with a specific self sealing technique. The new techniques place the incision into the cornea (The Bloodless clear part of the eye-Much like the glass on your watch). Patients at **Banaji Eyecare** have shown an overwhelming preference for Phaco combined with the soft foldable lens implants

Advantages of the no-stitch clear corneal incision

- No placement or removal of sutures
- May be performed under local or topical anesthesia
- Requires No Patch when combined with topical anesthetics
- It is a bloodless incision
- Reduces postoperative restrictions
- Improves postoperative vision and minimizes postoperative astigmatism.

Ultrasound is used to gently break-up (or emulsify) the cloudy lens into tiny pieces that can be removed through the tip of the "phaco" probe instead of a wide incision. A special lens such as the soft foldable Silicone and Acrylic lens can then be implanted through the smaller incision.

months or years after surgery creating a "secondary" cataract. If this occurs, an outpatient laser procedure will quickly restore good vision in a matter of minutes.

Sight loss can be prevented

In most cases the topical anesthesia, no-stitch, no-patch techniques are preferred, however, some patients, because of their eye structure, health or other factors, may not be good candidates for the new techniques. In these cases, patients can have traditional surgery and expect to do well. **Banaji Eyecare** offers a wide variety of cataract surgical techniques. Loss of sight from the cataract is usually preventable. With modern technology, cataracts can be removed and good vision restored when a person feels the loss of vision is great enough to interfere with daily activities. Cataracts need no longer be ripe before removal.