

# Posterior Capsulotomy

## What is a posterior capsulotomy?

Posterior capsulotomy is a surgical procedure which is often necessary after cataract surgery.

Cataract surgery is performed when the lens of the eye becomes cloudy. The cloudy lens is removed and replaced by an artificial lens.

## What does the capsule have to do with cataract surgery?

The natural lens has a cellophane like outer covering called the capsule. Modern cataract surgery leaves the back part (posterior capsule) in place to support the new artificial lens.

## Why is a posterior capsulotomy necessary?

The posterior capsule is normally clear. After cataract surgery it may become wrinkled or cloudy. If this interferes with your vision, Dr Workman may advise you to have a small opening made in the posterior capsule with a laser to restore optimal vision.

A laser posterior capsulotomy is performed in the rooms and only local anaesthetic eye drops are required. The technique is usually painless and improved vision can occur as early as an hour afterwards.

Posterior capsulotomy is safe and effective , but as with any surgical procedure, rare complications such as retinal detachment or raised pressure inside the eye are possible. It is important to follow the instructions you are given.

## When should a posterior capsulotomy be performed?

If your vision diminishes after cataract surgery it is important to consult Dr Workman. There may be clouding of the posterior capsule which can be quickly and safely fixed. However, it is important to exclude other causes of diminished vision.

Many people eventually need a posterior capsulotomy following cataract surgery, particularly younger people. It should not be a cause for worry since the clouding is part of the body's natural healing process.

I.....consent to having YAG laser posterior capsulotomy performed on my **Left / Right** eye. I have read the information above and understand the procedure. Any questions I may have had have been answered to my satisfaction.

The fees for this procedure are:

- One eye \$535.00 (non-concessional) and I will be out-of-pocket approximately \$234.00
- Two eyes \$802.00 (non-concessional) and I will be out-of-pocket approximately \$352.00

Signed..... Date.....