

New lens restores vision

By Libby Sullivan

Ophthalmologist Dr David Manning was the first eye surgeon in Australia to insert a new generation of eye lens in December 2012 at Hunter Valley Private Hospital.

The Restor Toric +2.5 intraocular lens by Alcon is a groundbreaking multifocal lens that corrects long and middle sight, and improves short sight without the potential problems of a standard multifocal lens. These problems include poor night vision and reduced contrast. The new lens is the first of this generation to correct astigmatism as well.

Dr Manning is positive about the new technology: "The result is simply a greater range of vision for a much larger group of people, without the down side".

The new generation lens is suitable for most patients undergoing routine cataract surgery where vision has become impaired, but is particularly useful for those people seeking vision correction for focus errors where becoming less dependent on spectacle wear is important.

Cataract surgery is the most commonly performed operation by eye surgeons in Australia today. The procedure has undergone major advancements in recent times with the introduction of SMI guidance and Laser Assisted Cataract Surgery systems.

"Conventional cataract surgery uses ultrasound to break up a cataract, remove it and then an artificial eye lens is implanted. Laser cataract surgery uses laser to break the lens into pieces, which is then sucked out, the new lens is then inserted the same way. The new lens needs to be carefully positioned in the eye, particularly if one is correcting astigmatism, and using the SMI Heads-Up Display Guidance System helps achieve accurate results".

A cataract is a clouding of the lens of the eye and leads to vision loss. The clouding obstructs light from passing and being focused onto the back of the eye, or retina.

- Intraocular lens are artificial eye lens, which replace the cloudy lens or cataract during cataract surgery.
- Multifocal lens allow for vision correction at different distances, but were previously tolerated in only a small group of people, and had mixed results for the range of distances.

Laser Cataract surgery uses light to precisely cut tissue in the eye. The cataract is broken into small pieces and then sucked out.

An artificial lens is always inserted to correct vision otherwise "coke bottle bottom" glasses are needed. The lens sits within, and is held by, fine tissue within the eye.

"This [Restor] lens combined with Laser Assisted Cataract Surgery and SMI guidance brings us closer to the Holy Grail of eye surgery; vision restoration equal to the sight of a 25 year old, not just for distance, but for near and middle sight as well," said Dr Manning.

Dr Manning was chosen to be the first user of this lens in Australia due to his experience in using multifocal lenses, particularly the Restor lens, and his commitment to achieving vision results that patients are now beginning to expect.

Dr Manning performs both Laser Assisted Cataract Surgery, and Conventional Ultrasound Cataract Surgery with Restor lens. He operates at Charlestown Private Hospital and Hunter Valley Private Hospital.

Dr David Manning is available for consultation for cataract surgery and the Restor + 2.5 lens at Denison Street Eye Surgeons, Hamilton, on 49613730.



Restor +2.5 lens

Mature cataract in eye