Choosing the right lens

When you have cataract surgery, your ophthalmologist removes your eye’s cloudy, natural lens. That lens is replaced with a clear, artificial lens called an intraocular lens (IOL). This tiny, flexible plastic lens is less than half the size of a dime.

Today there are different types of IOLs to replace your natural lens. Each type affects how you see when you are not wearing eyeglasses. Before surgery, you and your ophthalmologist will discuss the different types of IOLs. Together, you will decide which lens is best for your lifestyle needs.

Just like eyeglasses, there are different powers of IOLs. Before your surgery, your ophthalmologist will take measurements of your eyes. They are used to calculate the correct IOL power for you.

The eye’s clear lens focuses light into the eye to help you see.