



## FACT SHEET

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[www.siemslasik.com](http://www.siemslasik.com)
- DESCRIPTION:** Siems Eye Center is the leading refractive surgical practice in Nevada. Dr. Siems is a board-certified ophthalmologist specializing in LASIK Laser Vision Correction and has treated thousands of patients through state-of-the-art vision surgery. Recognized as the area's most experienced surgeon, Dr. Siems is also considered a pioneer in the field of refractive surgery as he was one of the first five doctors in the nation to use IntraLase onsite.
- Siems Eye Center provides complete eye care expertise utilizing the most advanced eye care technology. In addition to offering conventional laser surgery, Custom Lasik and Bladeless Lasik, Siems Eye Center also provides general eye exams and specializes in cataract surgery with advanced implants and cosmetic eyelid surgery.
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## SERVICES:

### LASIK

LASIK uses a laser to change the curvature of the cornea (the clear front surface or “window” of the eye) to reduce or even eliminate the eye's refractive errors such as nearsightedness, farsightedness, and astigmatism. LASIK is the procedure of choice for most patients because they recover quickly and have fewer side effects and complications than with other methods of vision correction.

LASIK involves two steps: First, a hinged flap of thin corneal tissue is created and gently folded out of the way. Next, an excimer laser reshapes the underlying tissue in a manner that's predicated by the patient's prescription. The surgeon then replaces the corneal flap over the treated area where it bonds securely, without the need for stitches. Most patients experience very little, if any, discomfort. Functional vision returns very rapidly, with the majority of patients seeing well enough to drive without contact lenses or glasses, within a day or two after surgery.

## **IntraLase LASIK**

Siems Eye Center was one of the first practices in the U.S. to offer this advanced laser technology to create the corneal flap, the important first step in the LASIK procedure. Intralase provides a computer-controlled, all laser approach to the flap-creating process, which optimizes safety.

By replacing the traditional blade with a silent, tiny beam of laser light, the Intralase laser dramatically reduces the risk of complications by creating over a million, tiny, two-micron sized bubbles that separate the corneal tissue creating the corneal flap. This precision makes LASIK correction with IntraLase, the safest form of LASIK vision correction available today.

## **Custom LASIK**

With the advent of wavefront diagnostic technology, wavefront-guided excimer lasers can now treat patients according to the uniqueness of their entire optical system, not just their prescription. Light travels in a procession of flat sheets known as wavefronts. Gentle wavefronts of light enter the eye and pass through the entire optical system. As they are reflected back and exit the eye, the distorted waves of light are compared with the flat waves of light that would have returned in a perfect optical system. This information is converted to a 3D map, saved on a computer disc, and transferred to the excimer laser where it is guided by eye tracking technology. The eye tracker follows the eye's tiniest movements and automatically repositions the laser beam to focus exactly where the doctor wants it. The cornea is reshaped to each individual's unique "custom" correction. In contrast to conventional LASIK, both lower order and higher order distortions are corrected with custom LASIK. Lower order distortions roughly correspond to one's glasses pre-surgery. Higher distortions have more to do with the quality of one's vision.

## **LASEK/PRK**

These procedures may offer some advantages over LASIK for patients who have thin corneas or corneal abnormalities. Instead of creating a flap of corneal tissue, the epithelium (surface cells) is loosened with a diluted alcohol solution and moved aside. The surface under the epithelium is treated with the laser, and the epithelial flap may (LASEK) or may not (PRK) be returned to its original position. A protective soft contact lens is placed over the cornea to make the eye more comfortable while it heals. LASEK and PRK require longer healing time and there may be increased discomfort and the possibility of corneal haze.

## **Cataracts**

A cataract is the clouding of the natural lens. Cataracts are natural with age. In fact, 90% of all cataracts occur as part of the normal aging process. The only treatment for cataracts is surgery. This surgery is simple, lasting approximately 10 minutes. The cloudy cataract will be vacuumed out and a new clear artificial lens will be inserted.

Siems Eye Center is proud to offer our patients the latest in replacement lens technology that allows patients to see at distance and at near without the use of glasses.

## **The ReStor® Lens**

ReStor Lens represents the latest advancement in cataract surgery lens technology. This intraocular lens distributes light to near and distance focal points at the same time, providing a full range of visual function within each of its 12 concentric rings – giving cataract patients the best opportunity to live life free of glasses.

## **Phakic IOLs**

Phakic IOL is an artificial Intraocular Lens (IOL) that is implanted inside the eye without removing the eye's natural lens. Phakic IOLs can be thought of as implantable contact lenses and can be a viable alternative for those who are too nearsighted or farsighted to have their cornea reshaped with the laser, or whose corneas are too thin or abnormally shaped.

## **Crystalens**

Most patients over the age of 45 who are nearsighted or farsighted are also presbyopic (difficulty focusing near). Over the past several years, millions of eyes have received intraocular lens implants when undergoing cataract surgery. The same highly successful surgical technique is used to implant the crystalens. The crystalens is an intraocular lens engineered to move inside the eye, thereby allowing the eye to focus at different distances.

## **Intacs**

Intacs are plastic, prescription, micro-thin inserts that are inserted just under the outer edge of the cornea in the eye. They reshape the curvature of the eye to correct mild amounts of nearsightedness and do not remove any tissue. They are most commonly used today to treat keratoconus, a progressive thinning condition of the cornea.

## **Cosmetic Eyelid Surgery**

As a person ages, the skin above and below the eyelid tends to stretch and often the fat that resides behind the eye begins to bulge forward causing puffiness or bags of the eyes. These conditions can be eliminated via surgery for either functional or cosmetic reasons. This surgical procedure removes the excess skin and bulging fat and reapporions the skin for a natural, more youthful look.

## **Pterygium Surgery**

A pterygium is a vascularized growth on the surface of the sclera (white part of the eye). It generally begins in the nasal quadrant (nose-side) of the eye and results from long-term unprotected sun exposure. Signs and symptoms of pterygia include irritation and redness, changing vision due to growth onto the cornea, and anxiety due to undesirable appearance. Although lubrication and protection from the sun may help early on, advanced pterygia generally requires surgical removal. This procedure generally lasts just a few minutes. The recurrence rate of simple excision is close to 50%. To reduce the recurrence rate, a graft consisting of conjunctiva or amnion is sutured or glued into the affected area. The grafted area will appear red for several weeks following surgery.

## **General Eye Exam**

A general eye exam assesses the overall health of the eyes. The external appearance of the eyes, the eyelids, lashes, tear ducts, and the skin surrounding the eye will be inspected. The ability of the eyes to move normally and in coordination with each other will also be examined. The health of the eyes will be carefully accessed. A full exam, with the use of a microscope, will be conducted to ensure that all visible structures of the eyes are healthy. The eye pressure will be measured to assess for glaucoma. Abnormal findings will be discussed in detail. If treatment is necessary, treatment options will also be discussed.