# INTRACOR™ - Treatment for Presbyopia

## Problems reading close up? Then you could be suffering from presbyopia...

When we reach our mid 40s, changes to our near vision make every day activities such as reading the newspaper or fine print, looking at menus, or text messaging more difficult. This is a natural process which affects everyone.

**Why is your vision changing?**

The natural lens and the muscles in our eyes, which allow us to focus on items close up, gradually lose the ability to flex, or accommodate. This change to our eyesight is called presbyopia.

**Conventional treatments for presbyopia**

The use of reading glasses is the most common solution for presbyopia. Because presbyopia is progressive, most people will eventually rely on reading glasses for their everyday activities which require good near vision. Reading glasses are both inconvenient but also a sign of age, and can impact on your quality of life.

Other treatments for presbyopia require the inconvenience of wearing special contact lenses or the anxiety of undergoing a more invasive surgical procedure, such as replacing the natural lens in the eye with a special artificial lens implant, known as an intraocular lens.

## The INTRACOR Procedure—only 20 seconds to say goodbye to your reading glasses

Presbyopia can now be treated using a state-of-the-art, all-laser procedure called INTRACOR. The INTRACOR procedure is fast, gentle and effective* taking only 20 seconds to perform. ^

The procedure is minimally invasive, as no surgical incisions or cuts are made to the eye. After only a few hours, you will be able to return to your usual activities Close vision is generally improved to a level that reading glasses can be discarded in most situations; many patients no longer need them.*

## How Does INTRACOR Work?

The INTRACOR procedure uses a high-tech laser system called the TECHNOLAS Femtosecond Workstation which is made by a German company called Technolas Perfect Vision GmbH.

The INTRACOR procedure uses the laser to make a series of precise, microscopic concentric ring patterns in the stroma which result in a minor alteration to the corneal curvature to compensate for the presbyopia.

Presbyopia is corrected by a very gentle all-laser process which accurately adjusts the central shape of the cornea, the front of the eye, to bring near objects into focus.

The entire procedure is performed without making a single surgical incision through the surfaces of the cornea as the laser is targeted to only work within the cornea, in an area called the stroma.

Unlike conventional laser corrections, the INTRACOR procedure maintains the natural shape of the eye during the procedure to provide a more personalised and accurate treatment.

## The Benefits

- Convenient & comfortable
- Personalised treatment
- Immediate results
- Quick return to normal activities
- No need for glasses
- Minimally invasive
- Clinically proven*

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* Ruiz LA et al. Intrastromal Correction of Presbyopia Using a Femtosecond Laser System. Journal of Refractive Surgery 2009;25;847-854.

Mike P. Holzer, MD; Annett Mannsfeld, MSc; Angela Ehmer, MSc; Gerd U. Auffarth, MD Early Outcomes of INTRACOR Femtosecond Laser Treatment for Presbyopia (CE study results) Journal of Refractive Surgery 2009;25:855-861.

^ Subject to suitability—results can vary for each individual.

# Frequently Asked Questions

## What is Presbyopia?

**Presbyopia is the inevitable loss of the ability to focus on near objects, which means that most people over the age of 45 need reading glasses.**

It is the most common eye condition in Australia, occurs as part of normal aging and is not considered to be an eye disease. The process occurs gradually over a number of years. Symptoms are usually noticeable by age 40–45 and continue to develop until the process stabilises some 10–20 years later.

- The natural lens inside the eye loses its ability to change shape shifting focus from distant objects to near objects.
- Near objects appear blurred
- Reading glasses or bifocals are required to at close range.

## Are reading glasses necessary after the INTRACOR procedure?

In most cases, glasses are no longer needed. However, when reading books with particularly small print or in poor lighting conditions, weak glasses may make reading more comfortable.

## Am I a suitable candidate for INTRACOR?

In general, the procedure was developed for people from 40 years and older

- whose general state of health is good;
- who have no eye diseases;
- who, except for presbyopia, have only minor vision problems; and
- who seek to improve their close vision without glasses or contact lenses.

Your ophthalmologist will advise on your treatment options and determine if you are a suitable candidate for the INTRACOR procedure.

## When can I return to normal activities?

Your INTRACOR specialist will be able to advise on any specific short term changes to your routine. You should not drive on the day of the treatment. You should be able to return to all of your usual activities after one day.

## I have received laser treatment in the past. Can I still benefit from the INTRACOR procedure?

That depends on the type of laser treatment you received; only your ophthalmologist can make that decision. Prior LASIK therapy may preclude the INTRACOR procedure.

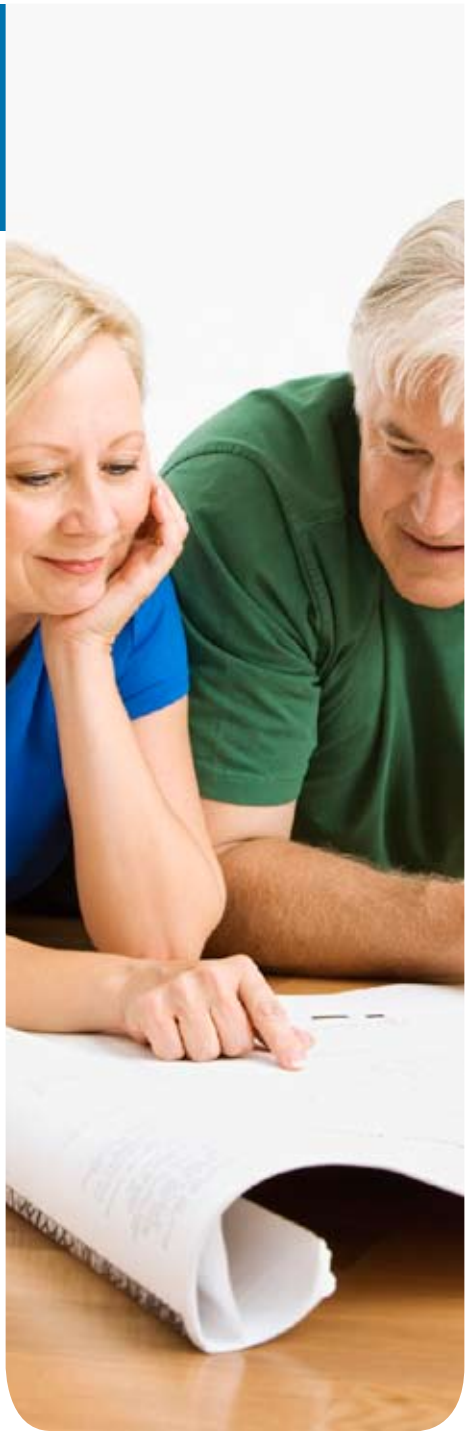
## What happens if I develop glaucoma or cataract a few years after the INTRACOR procedure?

Your ophthalmologist will advise you on the impact for treating glaucoma or cataract after INTRACOR. Usually there shouldn't be any impact.

## Are there any other side-effects?

Sometimes, there can be a slight reddening of the eye, caused by the fixation of the eye prior to the procedure. These symptoms disappear within a few days.

You may experience some brief discomfort after the treatment because the brain may have to adjust to the change in vision.



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