

# SUPRACOR™ Treatment for Presbyopia

Problems reading close up? Then you could be experiencing 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. This change to our eyesight is called presbyopia.

## 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.**

This is caused by the natural lens and the muscles in our eyes which allow us to focus on items close up, gradually losing the ability to flex, or accommodate.

It is the most common eye condition in Australia and occurs as part of normal aging; it is not considered 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.

## What are the 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 could be the wearing of multifocal contact lenses or a surgical procedure, such as replacing the natural lens in the eye with a special artificial lens implant, known as an intraocular lens.

## The SUPRACOR procedure

**SUPRACOR is an additional program as part of the LASIK-based procedure which is performed on the Technolas 217P Excimer laser.**

The procedure is suitable for treating a wide range of presbyopic patients. It may also be suitable for patients who have previously undergone a LASIK procedure.

This excimer laser is used to precisely reshape the cornea to restore near vision and simultaneously treat hyperopia or myopia, if necessary.

The procedure provides excellent distance, intermediate and near vision, whilst maintaining a high quality of vision.



## The Benefits

- Corrects both near and distance vision
- Uses the well-established LASIK treatment technique
- Fast visual recovery
- Convenient & comfortable
- Personalised treatment
- Quick return to normal activities
- Dramatically improved visual freedom
- Clinically proven\*



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\* D.R. Pietrini; J. Castanera; J. Chaubard; A. Roure; T.S. Guedj. Clinical Study of Visual Outcomes and Patient Satisfaction With Excimer Procedure for Presbyopia. ASCRS Free Paper, 2011

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

# Frequently Asked Questions



## How does SUPRACOR work?

The treatment involves first creating a thin flap on the surface of the eye with either a femtosecond laser or a microkeratome.

This upper layer or flap is then moved to one side to allow the surgeon access to the cornea. Then the surgeon uses the excimer laser to accurately reshape the cornea and treat the presbyopia.

For improved safety, the excimer laser uses the state-of-the-art Advanced Control Eyetracking (ACE) technology.

Using iris recognition technology, this dynamic tracker continually tracks eye movements, rotation and pupil shift and simultaneously adjusts the laser beam to ensure the laser is accurately delivered during the entire procedure.

At the end of the procedure, the surgeon repositions the flap to its original position. This allows the eye to naturally heal with the new shape.

## Are reading glasses necessary after the SUPRACOR 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 SUPRACOR?

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 (such as keratoconus);
- who, except for presbyopia, have only minor vision problems; and
- who seek to improve both their close and distance vision without glasses or contact lenses.

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

## What if I am not suitable for SUPRACOR?

If you are unsuitable for the SUPRACOR procedure, the following options are available:

- reading glasses;
- multifocal contact lenses;
- laser vision correction for distance and/or monovision;
- KAMRA™ Corneal Inlay for reading;
- artificial lens implants such as multifocal lenses or accommodating lenses that replace the eye's natural lens like Crystalens® or Technis;
- INTRACOR®, a minimally invasive femtosecond laser treatment that treats presbyopia.

## When can I return to normal activities?

Your overall near and distance vision may need a few months to fully stabilise, but an improvement in vision will typically take 1–2 days for near vision.

Distance vision may take up to three months to improve due to extreme dry eyes after surgery being more prevalent in this type of presbyopic patient therefore you may need to prescribe lubricant for a longer period of time post-op.

Your ophthalmologist will advise you about any specific short term changes to your routine.

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

SUPRACOR may also be a suitable treatment for patients who have previously undergone standard LASIK treatments. However the KAMRA Inlay may be more appropriate. Once your eyes are assessed your ophthalmologist will advise what will be best.

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

Your ophthalmologist will be able to commence treatment for both glaucoma or cataract after SUPRACOR without any difficulty or compromise.

## 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 or visual disturbance after the treatment as you adjust to the change in vision.
- Your eye may feel slightly uncomfortable for the first day. Eye drops are administered to minimise this discomfort.
- Your overall near and distance vision may need a few months to fully stabilise, but an improvement in vision will typically take one to two days.

**This FAQs section presents only a short summary.** Your ophthalmologist will advise you in more detail on these topics and answer all the questions you might have on the SUPRACOR procedure.

Contact us so we can talk to you about your vision and how we can help personalEYES a visual solution for life!

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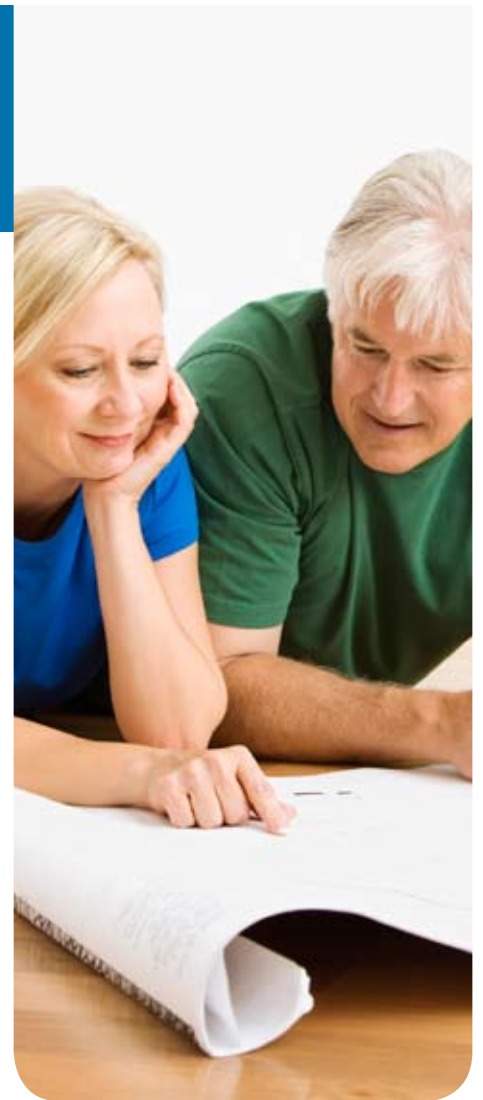
## What happens if I develop glaucoma or cataract a few years after the SUPRACOR procedure?

Your ophthalmologist will advise you on the impact for treating glaucoma or cataract after SUPRACOR. 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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