

See for yourself.

gtoc.net



A Patient's Guide to

Cataract Surgery

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511 Ashmun St. | Sault Ste. Marie
(906) 635-9802 · (800) 824-2711

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To Our Patients

Established in 1948, GTOC has grown into the largest ophthalmology practice in Northern Michigan. Our clinic has board-certified surgeons who provide sub-specialty care in oculoplastic surgery, pediatric and adult strabismus, glaucoma, cornea, as well as cataract & refractive surgery. Grand Traverse Ophthalmology Clinic has a caring and friendly staff, which includes seven ophthalmologists, a team of optometrists, orthoptic and aesthetic services, and two full-service optical departments. For the convenience of our patients, GTOC has locations in Traverse City, Petoskey and Sault Ste. Marie.

Over
25,000
Cataract Procedures
2010-2021

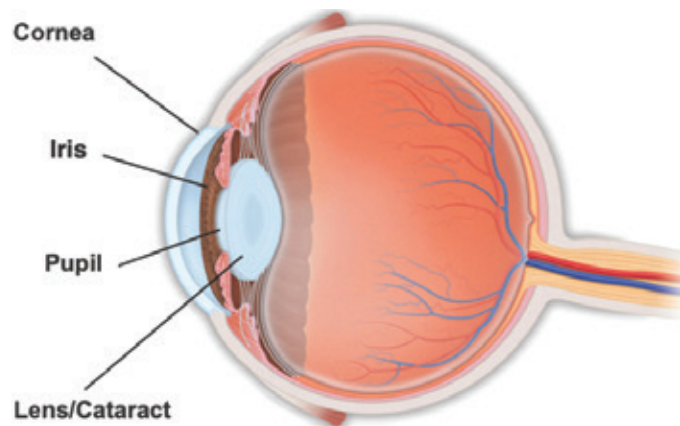
Experience Matters



What are Cataracts?

A cataract is the clouding of the natural lens of the eye. The lens focuses the light that enters your eye to help provide clear vision.

A cataract can be compared to looking through a window that is frosted or yellowed.



How are Cataracts Treated?

The process involves a thorough preoperative evaluation, testing, and consultation with your surgeon. The outpatient surgical procedure is usually performed under local anesthesia. A small incision is made either manually or with a laser, and the cloudy cataract lens is removed by ultrasound. The focusing power of the natural lens is restored by replacing it with an intraocular lens (IOL) implant. Routine post-op appointments with your surgeon or referring optometrist are necessary. Patients typically return to their normal activities one or two days after surgery.

Should I have Cataract Surgery?

Cataract surgery is an elective surgery. You should consider surgery if you are not happy with the quality of your vision after correction with glasses or contacts AND your surgeon determines that cataracts are a cause of your vision problem.

Cataract Surgery and Vision Correction



Different Types of Intraocular Lens (IOLs) are available. What is the best option for me?

After a thorough pre-op evaluation and testing, your surgeon will discuss your options based on the results of your exam. Many patients will have the option to upgrade to our refractive cataract surgery packages (*see page 9 for information*). With advances in IOL technology and surgical techniques, these exciting options can provide excellent vision, with less dependence on glasses or contacts.

What is Astigmatism?

Astigmatism is an irregular shape of the cornea, the front surface of the eye. This condition causes blurred vision and is correctable with glasses or contacts. Astigmatism can also be corrected at the time of cataract surgery with customized (toric) IOLs or by performing surgical incisions on the cornea.

IOL Options

Multifocal IOL (*presbyopia correcting*)

A multifocal IOL provides patients both distance and near vision, allowing the most eyeglass independence of all IOLs. This IOL can also correct astigmatism. Your surgeon may offer this option following pre-operative testing, as not all patients are good candidates for this technology. Because of the lens design, some patients may experience rings or halos around lights at night. The presbyopic-correcting IOL is not covered by Medicare or insurance plans.



Toric IOLs

For patients with astigmatism, the toric IOL is a great option to help decrease the need to wear glasses or contacts for distance vision. The toric IOL is not covered by Medicare or insurance plans.

Monofocal IOLs

The monofocal IOL is a single focus lens, which means it can focus your eye at a single distance, usually far. After surgery, glasses are typically required for both distance and near focus, though some patients may only require reading glasses. This IOL does not correct astigmatism. The monofocal IOL is covered by Medicare and most insurance plans.

Laser-Assisted Cataract Surgery

GTOC Surgeons are pleased to offer laser-assisted cataract surgery in addition to traditional cataract surgery. Advances in technology have led to the development of lasers specifically for use in cataract surgery.

What is the difference between traditional and laser-assisted cataract surgery?

With traditional cataract surgery, the incisions into the eye are made by the surgeon with a blade. The opening into the lens capsule is also created manually by the surgeon. In laser-assisted cataract surgery, the incisions and capsule opening are performed with the laser. The laser is also used to correct low amounts of astigmatism and to soften the cataract, allowing removal with less ultrasound energy.

Laser-assisted cataract surgery is most beneficial in patients with complex cataracts and cataracts with co-existing ocular disease. The laser is also effective in treating smaller amounts of astigmatism.



Copper Ridge Surgery Center - At Copper Ridge Traverse City

Cataract Surgery at GTOC

Options for Patients

TRADITIONAL*

Cataract Surgery

- Monofocal intraocular lens (IOL).
- Glasses typically required for distance and near vision post-op.
- Billable to Medicare and insurance but subject to copays, coinsurance, and deductibles.

REFRACTIVE CATARACT SURGERY*

Simple Astigmatism

- Monofocal intraocular lens (IOL).
- Low astigmatism correction with Femtosecond laser.
- Reading glasses required for near vision.
- Refractive cost not billable to Medicare and insurance. Patient is responsible for additional fees.

REFRACTIVE CATARACT SURGERY*

Complex Astigmatism

- Toric (astigmatic correcting) IOL.
- Reading glasses required for near vision.
- Laser assisted surgery included, surgeon preference.
- Refractive cost not billable to Medicare and insurance. Patient is responsible for additional fees.

REFRACTIVE CATARACT SURGERY*

Presbyopic Correction

- Multifocal intraocular lens (IOL).
- Astigmatism correction if needed.
- Patients typically function without glasses for distance and near.
- Laser assisted surgery included, surgeon preference.
- Refractive cost not billable to Medicare and insurance. Patient is responsible for additional fees.

**Surgery is covered by Medicare and insurance but the upgraded lens requires additional fees.
Refractive results are expected, but not guaranteed.*

Prior LASIK, PRK or RK Surgery

All cataract surgery patients who have previously had refractive surgery (LASIK, PRK or RK) are more likely to require glasses after cataract surgery. The majority of our patients with a past history of refractive surgery do well and are happy with the results of their surgery. However, because the shape of the cornea has been surgically altered, the ability to predict the IOL power is compromised.

Details of the Procedure

We perform surgery at the Copper Ridge Surgery Center in Traverse City and at War Memorial Hospital in Sault Ste. Marie.

The surgery is usually performed as an outpatient with a topical anesthetic. The patient's vital signs are monitored by an anesthesiologist or nurse anesthetist and IV sedation is provided.

You will receive your surgery arrival time the afternoon prior to surgery (for Monday surgeries, you will get your arrival time Friday afternoon). An IV will be started and a gel-like solution placed on the eye to dilate the pupil and numb the eye.



In the operating room, you will be lying on your back under the light of the microscope. You will be comfortable. It is important that you lie still. The surgery typically takes less than thirty minutes. Then you will be in the recovery area for 10-30 minutes after which you will be discharged home.

The day of surgery, your eye will feel scratchy and your vision will be blurry. The pupil will remain dilated all day. Some patients may be sleepy or groggy from the anesthesia. A protective plastic shield is worn over the eye the first night after the surgery.

Patients are required to have a driver the day of surgery. The driver must check in with the patient upon arrival and stay at the facility until the patient is discharged. Patients are required to have a driver the day after surgery for their post-op appointment.

Post-op Recovery and Appointment Schedule

Most patients are able to return to their normal activities the day after surgery. Resuming sports, exercise classes and other activities is usually not a problem; please ask your surgeon for details.

A follow-up appointment is scheduled for the next day (sometimes later the same day). Most patients will be seen by

their referring optometrist or surgeon 1 week after surgery. Healing is usually complete in 4 weeks and new glasses can be prescribed at that time.



Eye Drops

Most patients require no prescription eye drops after surgery. Eye drops are, however, often used in patients with diabetes, glaucoma, and other ocular conditions. Your surgeon will recommend a drop regimen that is tailored to you. You will be given detailed instructions on how to use the drops prescribed.

Timing of Surgery

Cataract surgery is performed on one eye at a time. If both eyes require surgery, they are typically scheduled 2 weeks apart. This may depend on the patient's and surgeon's schedules.

Complications of Cataract Surgery

Cataract surgery has a very high success rate, but all surgical procedures can have complications. Infection is the most serious complication and can result in severe loss of vision. However, post-op infections are rare. Bleeding, intra-operative IOL problems, post-op swelling and inflammation are other possible complications. More detailed information is provided in the surgical consent form.

Cataract Surgery Summary Points

- The great majority of our cataract surgery patients are very happy with their vision and pleased they decided to have the surgery.
- Cataract surgery is almost always “elective surgery”; that is, you decide when you are ready for surgery.
- The primary goal of cataract surgery is to improve vision by removing the cloudy lens. Many patients are able to function without glasses after surgery, however, some patients still require glasses or contacts to achieve their best vision after cataract surgery.
- An intraocular lens (IOL) is placed in the eye at the time of surgery. This IOL is customized to your eye and does not need to be replaced later in life.
- Specialty IOLs are available that allow some patients to see well without glasses after surgery. Your surgeon will explain your specific IOL options after your pre-operative testing and evaluation.
- Cataract surgery is normally covered by insurance and Medicare. The patient is responsible for any copays and deductibles, which vary depending on your insurance plan. Refractive cataract surgery packages are not covered by Medicare or medical insurance.



GTOC Cataract Surgeons

All of our surgeons at GTOC are experienced board-certified physicians. Educational requirements include a 4-year undergraduate degree, 4 years of medical school and 4 years residency training in ophthalmology. Many of our physicians have additional sub-specialty or fellowship training beyond their residencies.





Matthew P. Madion, M.D.

B.S.: University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI

M.D.: Wayne State University School of Medicine, Detroit, MI

Ophthalmology Residency: Kresge Eye Institute, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI

Dr. Madion joined GTOC in 1992. He practices comprehensive Ophthalmology with a surgical focus on cataract and refractive surgery (Lasik). His non-professional interests include downhill skiing, mountain biking and salmon fishing. He and his wife have 3 adult sons.

Sub-Specialty: Cataract and LASIK Refractive Surgery.



Petra von Kulajta, M.D.

B.S.: Northwestern University, Evanston, IL

M.D.: University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI

Ophthalmology Residency: Ohio State University, Columbus, OH

Cornea Fellowship: Wilmer Eye Institute of Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD

Dr. von Kulajta joined GTOC in 2000. Dr. von Kulajta has a busy cataract practice, implanting both standard and specialty intraocular lenses. As a cornea specialist, she treats many patients with dry eyes and also does corneal transplants. Outside of work, she spends time with her husband and 2 active school-age children.

Sub-Specialty: Cornea and Cataract Surgery



Jeffrey N. Wentzloff, M.D.

B.S.: Alma College, Alma, MI

M.D.: Michigan State University College of Human Medicine, East Lansing, MI

Ophthalmology Residency: William Beaumont Hospital, Royal Oak, MI

Glaucoma Fellowship: Harvard Medical School, Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary, Boston, MA

Dr. Wentzloff joined GTOC in 2006. In addition to cataract surgery with the option of specialty lens implants, Dr. Wentzloff performs glaucoma surgery including glaucoma stents. Dr. Wentzloff enjoys outdoor activities like cycling, running, and cross-country skiing. He has 4 children.

Sub-Specialty: Glaucoma and Cataract Surgery



J. Ryan McManus, M.D.

B.S.: Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

M.D.: University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI

Ophthalmology Residency: Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, SC

Glaucoma Fellowship: University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA

Dr. McManus joined GTOC in 2013. In addition to his training in general ophthalmology and cataract surgery, Dr. McManus completed a fellowship in glaucoma and is able to provide a full spectrum of medical and surgical glaucoma care to his patients. He and his wife have 5 young children.

Sub-Specialty: Glaucoma and Cataract Surgery

Contact Information for Surgery

Surgery Scheduling

Traverse City
(231) 947-6246

Petoskey
(231) 487-2370

Sault Ste. Marie
(906) 635-5777

Ask for surgery scheduling: www.gtoc.net

Surgery Facilities

Copper Ridge Surgery Center

4100 Park Forest Dr.
Traverse City, MI 49684
(231) 392-8900 / (877) 392-9800
www.surgerytc.com

War Memorial Hospital

500 Osborn Blvd.
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
(906) 635-4460
www.warmemorialhospital.org



Insurance and Financial Information

Traditional cataract surgery is normally a “covered procedure” with Medicare and most medical insurance companies. Individual patient responsibilities including co-pays and deductibles vary among medical insurance plans. Contact your insurance carrier to determine the details of your coverage.

Refractive cataract surgery with simple astigmatism, complex astigmatism, or presbyopic correction is not covered entirely by your medical insurance plan.



Questions?

Call our billing department directly at 231-932-4373
or toll free, 800-968-6612 and ask for billing.

Traverse City

Traverse City Clinic & Copper Ridge Surgery Center at Copper Ridge



GTOC Traverse City Clinic

929 Business Park Drive
Traverse City, MI 49686
(231) 947-6246
(800) 968-6612
www.gtoc.net

Copper Ridge Surgery Center at Copper Ridge

4100 Park Forest Drive
Traverse City, MI 49684
(231) 392-8900
(877) 392-9800
www.surgerytc.com

Sault Ste. Marie

Sault Ste. Marie Clinic & War Memorial Hospital (Surgery Center)



GTOC **Sault Ste. Marie Clinic**

511 Ashmun St. Suite 101
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

(906) 635-9802

(800) 824-2711

www.gtoc.net

War Memorial Hospital **(Surgery Center)**

500 Osborne Blvd.
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

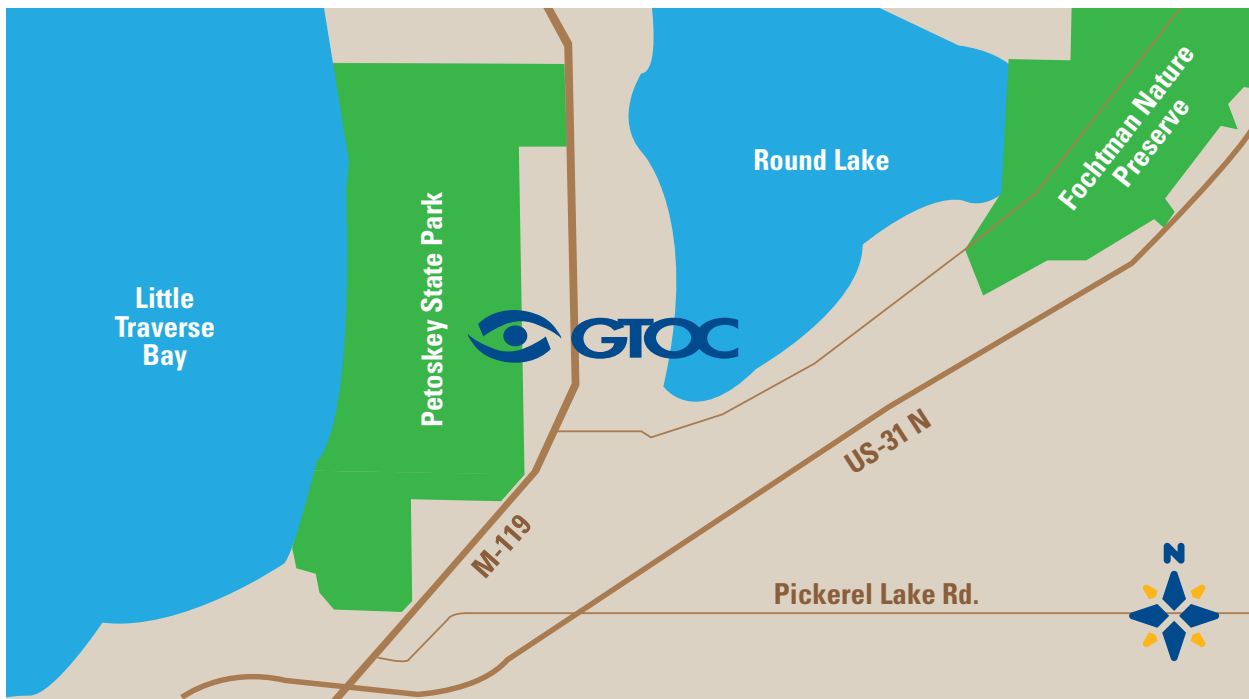
(906) 635-4460

(800) 968-6612

www.warmemorialhospital.org

Petoskey

Petoskey Clinic



GTOC Petoskey Clinic

2061 M-119
Petoskey, MI 49770

(231) 487-2020

(866) 407-2020

www.gtoc.net

Accommodations for Surgery Patients

Traverse City and Petoskey Patients

Be sure to mention you're a surgery patient to get a discount



Baymont Inn & Suites

2326 US 31 South
Traverse City MI 49684
(231) 933-4454



Courtyard by Marriott

3615 S. Airport Rd. W.
Traverse City MI 49684
(231) 929-1800



Fairfield Inn & Suites

3701 N. Country Dr.
Traverse City MI 49684
(231) 922-7900



Munson Manor Hospitality House

1220 Medical Campus Drive
Traverse City MI 49684

Munson Manor offers 30 rooms that can accommodate up to 54 people, including two RV pads with connections. It's located behind Munson Medical (corner of Brook Street).

A reservation is advised by calling
(231) 935-2300

Traverse City Transportation Information

Comfort Keepers® Senior Care of Traverse City (231) 929-9044

Sault Ste. Marie Patients

The Guest House

2049 Ashmun Street
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
(906) 632-3322

Billing and Insurance Questions

Please call our billing department directly at 231-932-4373 or toll free 800-968-6612 and ask for the billing department. We accept cash, checks, Visa, Master Card, Discover, American Express, Care Credit.



General Medical Questions

For any medical questions pertaining to your surgery, please call the office at which your surgery was scheduled. The receptionist will direct your question to the appropriate personnel.

Traverse City
(231) 947-6246
(800) 968-6612

Sault Ste. Marie
(906) 635-9802
(800) 824-2711

Petoskey
(231) 487-2020
(866) 407-2020

For after-hours emergencies, please call 231-947-6246 (Traverse City and Petoskey) and 906-635-9802 (Sault Ste. Marie).

Notes:

See for yourself.



www.gtoc.net