

SMILE

SMall Incision Lenticule Extraction

What is SMILE?

SMILE (SMall Incision Lenticule Extraction), commonly referred to as flapless laser vision correction is a safe High Definition Vision™ solution for the treatment of nearsightedness and astigmatism.

SMILE is a minimally invasive treatment method which combines the extensive experience and superior safety of traditional vision correction techniques with numerous innovative benefits. SMILE is redefining refractive surgery as we know it.

When it comes to your vision, only the best will do. That's why Herzig Eye Institute remains committed to staying at the forefront of vision correction technology.

Preparing for Your SMILE procedure

All patients begin with a complete surgical evaluation that involves a comprehensive eye examination, corneal topography and an iDesign measurement. Once it has been determined that you are a good candidate for SMILE and you have decided to proceed, the next step is to choose a date.

If you are a contact lens wearer, you must discontinue wearing your contact lenses for the appropriate time prior to the date of your laser procedure.

Soft Lenses	1-2 weeks
Soft Toric Lenses	2 weeks
Gas Permeable	3-4 weeks
Hard Lenses	8 weeks

The Day of Your SMILE procedure

On the day of your procedure, you will be at Herzig Eye Institute for 1½ hours. Wear comfortable clothing and be sure to arrange to have someone drive you home after your procedure as your vision will be blurry.

When you arrive for your SMILE procedure, you will be asked to review and sign a consent form. Measurements (corneal topography, iDesign) will be repeated. Just before your SMILE procedure, the eye is numbed with topical anesthetic drops.

The SMILE procedure

The specially developed laser system used for the SMILE procedure is the Zeiss VisuMax femtosecond laser. This high-precision femtosecond laser provides targeted correction of the vision defect while leaving the surrounding corneal tissue virtually unaffected.

SMILE is a delicate laser procedure that allows for a very predictable healing response. In a single step the VisuMax femtosecond laser creates a thin lenticule and a small access measuring less than 4 mm in the intact cornea. The surgeon removes the lenticule through the small access. There is minimal disruption to the biomechanics of the cornea. No flap needs to be cut. The minimally invasive removal of the lenticule changes the shape of the cornea, correcting the refractive error of the eye.

SMILE is an innovative treatment technique that yields a wide range of benefits:

Flapless treatment

- no folding back of a corneal flap
- lenticule preparation in the intact cornea
- minimally invasive access measuring just a few millimeters
- almost complete preservation of protective corneal layer (epithelium) and stabilizing outer corneal layers (Bowman's membrane)
- maximum number of corneal nerves responsible for tear regulation remain intact
- practically painless during and after the procedure

Entire treatment carried out using a femtosecond laser

- use of high-precision femtosecond technology
- outstanding predictability of results, even in cases of severe myopia
- anatomically shaped contact glass avoids unnecessary compression of the cornea
- no loss of vision during treatment
- noiseless and odorless treatment
- stabilization of visual acuity typically within 14 days.

Single-step treatment

- entire laser correction in a single treatment step
- no device change during the operation
- short procedure

After the Procedure

After the procedure, you will be escorted to a waiting area where you will relax for a few minutes. Your surgeon will then check your cornea and ensure that it has begun to heal before you go home.

At the conclusion of the procedure you will be light sensitive and your vision will be blurry. Eye irritation and blurred vision may be present for the first few hours but most patients are comfortable after resting quietly with their eyes closed.

Drops and medication will be provided to minimize any discomfort. Regular post-operative appointments are required after the procedure and will vary based on the rate of recovery. Antibiotic, anti-inflammatory and lubricating drops will be provided to help achieve ideal healing.

Post-Operative Examinations

You will be seen at the following post-operative times: 1 day, 1 week and 1 month after your surgery. At the discretion of your doctor, additional post-operative appointments may be required. It is very important that you keep these appointments either at the Herzig Eye Institute or with your co-managing doctor.

Post-Operative Restrictions

Please refrain from swimming, gardening and hot tubs for 1 week after your surgery.

Outcome & Results

The SMILE procedure offers extremely fast recovery. Most patients are able to resume day-to-day activities just 24 hours after the surgery. Vision is usually quite good after 24 hours but, occasionally it can take a little longer to reach your best vision.

Lifetime Commitment

Your original SMILE procedure is backed by the Herzig Eye Institute Lifetime Commitment. If an additional procedure is deemed medically necessary, it will be performed at no additional cost. You must return for the required number of post-op exams and maintain regular eye examinations with the ophthalmologist or optometrist managing your care.

The Herzig Eye Institute surgeons and doctors are committed to providing you with your best possible vision. Our pricing structure is as simple and straight-forward as our Lifetime Commitment to you.

For more information check our website at:

www.herzig-eye.com.