

PRK, LASEK, LASIK AND CUSTOMEYES™ LASIK EXPLAINED

These laser vision correction procedures are ADF approved and recognised as beneficial for all personnel. The only exception is the ADF aircrew - they are permitted to have PRK only.

PRK

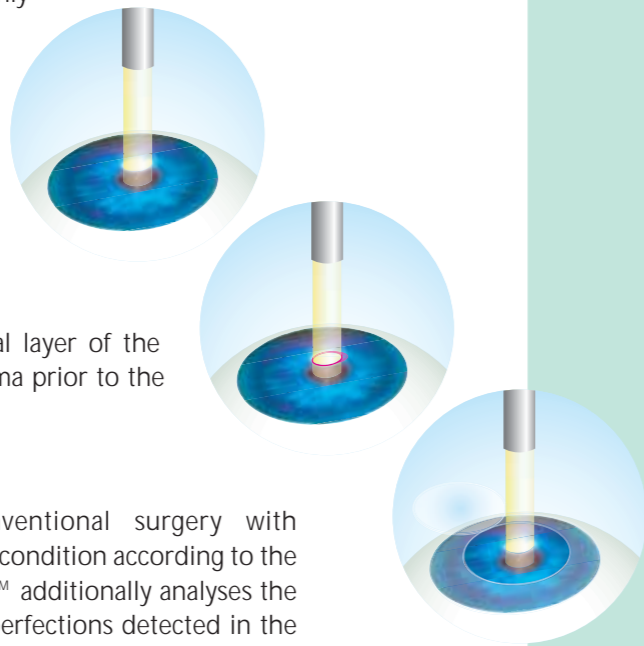
PRK involves applying the laser beam directly onto the surface of the cornea, re-shaping the corneal tissue to achieve the desired refraction.

LASEK

LASEK is a modification of PRK where the epithelial layer of the cornea is gently separated from the underlying stroma prior to the laser ablation and then placed back into position.

LASIK AND CUSTOMEYES™ LASIK

LASIK and CustomEyes™ LASIK combine conventional surgery with sophisticated laser technology. LASIK corrects the eye condition according to the power of your glasses or contact lenses. CustomEyes™ additionally analyses the way your eye focuses light and treats the unique imperfections detected in the analysis.



WHAT RESULTS CAN YOU EXPECT?

IMMEDIATE BENEFITS

LASIK:

You are likely to see an improvement of your natural vision immediately after surgery. By the next day, 99% of all patients see well enough, independent of glasses or contacts, to drive a car. Your sight usually settles down during the first couple of weeks after surgery.

PRK:

Due to applying the laser directly to the corneal tissue, recovery from PRK procedure is slower. A US Navy pilot study shows 75% of pilots flying at 4 weeks, and 95% at 8 weeks.

LONG TERM STABILITY

Once your refraction has stabilised, usually by 3 months post-operatively, our statistics show that the reshaped cornea is permanently modified. It is important to realise that the ageing process of the eye that causes near vision to blur, occurs regardless of refractive surgery.

PROJECTION INTO THE FUTURE

Experts around the world, based on the data of more than 20 years of laser vision correction experience, believe that there will be no long term problems of significance with laser vision correction.



Australia

New Zealand

Hong Kong

Malaysia

Indonesia

AUSTRALIA : FREECALL

1800 00 EYES (3937)

NEW ZEALAND : FREECALL

0800 529 377

WEBSITE

www.customeyes.com.au

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Sharp vision
without glasses
or contacts!



Laser vision correction according to
Australian Defence Force directives and standards



See the best
LASER
SIGHT CENTRES



YOU HAVE EXTRAORDINARY REQUIREMENTS – WE HAVE THE SOLUTION

We understand that as a member of the Australian Defence Force you are involved in extraordinary, very delicate, often strenuous and stressful activities, requiring you to perform tasks and duties which are well above the normal standard.

Particularly in those situations, coping with glasses or contact lenses can be a real challenge, maybe even a deciding factor whether a mission will be successful or not. Just imagine how much easier your life and your work would be if you had clear natural eye sight!

With today's ADF approved sophisticated and safe laser vision correction procedures like PRK, LASEK and LASIK, your visual freedom could be a reality in no time at all.

WE UNDERSTAND AND CATER FOR YOUR SPECIAL NEEDS

Dr Peter Stewart, Laser Sight Centres' founder and medical director, pioneered the LASIK procedure in Australasia in 1995. Since then, a number of well respected and highly trained refractive eye surgeons have joined the Laser Sight Centre group, performing well over 60,000 successful procedures to date. This gives us the status of Australia's most experienced laser vision correction team.

Two of our doctors have first hand experience in the ADF: Dr Dan Black, based in Queensland, currently holds the rank of Squadron Leader and is a consultant ophthalmologist for the RAAF at Amberley Air Base Queensland. Dr Patrick Versace, based in New South Wales, is a consultant ophthalmologist to HMAS Penguin in Sydney.

PRE-OPERATIVE CONSIDERATIONS

The decision to undergo laser refractive surgery and to accept the risk associated with such procedures ultimately lies with the individual member. ADF medical officers and ophthalmologists / refractive surgeons are to inform members that there is a small but real risk that their post-operative best corrected spectacle vision will be worse than pre-operatively. In the worst case, they may become medically unfit for their current duties.

Prior to undertaking refractive surgery ADF members are to complete the 'Counselling and approval for refractive surgery' form to indicate their informed consent to the surgery.

At the present time, two visual standards are in use in the ADF. Please check applicable standards for your particular job. All serving members must obtain the written approval of their CO before any procedure is to occur, regardless of the funding arrangements.

HOW SOON CAN YOU RESUME YOUR DUTIES?

RETURN TO RESTRICTED DUTY

ADF directives allow ADF members to return to restricted duties at the discretion of the ADF medical officer. In general, members who have undergone uncomplicated PRK or LASEK will be fit for restricted duties within a week of treatment, and patients who have had LASIK will be able to return to duties after 2 days.

RETURN TO OPERATIONAL DUTY

Correction of myopia: For most members, approx. 6 weeks after surgery. Aircrew are unfit to return to flying duty for a minimum of six weeks following PRK and LASEK. Divers are unfit to return to duty for three months following LASIK.

Correction of hypermetropia: Recovery time to achieve stable vision may take up to six months and may require further surgery to achieve the desired outcome.

WHAT ARE ADF'S FUNDING ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS?

Refractive surgery is permissible for serving ADF personnel and applicants for entry to the ADF. While there is insufficient evidence to justify the expense to the ADF of funding refractive surgery for all who may benefit from it, the situation will be closely monitored to determine if there are compelling operational, capability improvement and economic reasons to fund these procedures for a broader range of ADF personnel. A prioritisation policy has been adopted in the first instance to restrict the availability of refractive surgery funded by the Defence Health Service (DHS) to those personnel whose military duties, without question, require them to work frequently in extreme physical environments that preclude the safe use of spectacles or contact lenses, or where their use has a high probability of compromising mission performance. There is no provision for personnel not included in the selected groups to be provided funding for refractive surgery. The occupational groups approved for refractive surgery at public expense will be used to assist in the evaluation of the benefits of refractive surgery to the ADF.

ADF HEALTH BENEFITS

As a guideline, if you have chosen 'Top Extras' with any other cover, your laser vision correction treatment should be covered. However, please contact Defence Health to confirm your benefit eligibility.

TAX REFUND

You may be entitled to a 20% medical expense tax rebate. Please consult your accountant or tax agent. GST is not payable on laser vision correction as the procedures are not considered cosmetic surgery.



CHOOSE THE BEST TO SEE THE BEST

At Laser Sight Centres you will find highly experienced doctors and staff, and the most advanced equipment available in the world:

- Pioneers of LASIK in Asia/Pacific
- Most experienced LASIK team in Australasia
- Only appointed LASIK training centre in Australasia
- Latest and newest laser technology equipment ensures greater safety and accuracy for optimal visual results
- Only centre in Australasia to provide a 'Vision for Life' program for long term visual satisfaction
- More people have achieved visual freedom at Laser Sight Centres than with any other group or clinic in Australasia

YOUR NEXT STEP TO VISUAL FREEDOM

Take action now and change the way you see the world!

Call 1800 00 EYES (3937)

- arrange an obligation free vision assessment
- ask for our comprehensive brochure, video or CD

Visit our website:

www.customeyes.com.au

“Open your eyes to life without glasses or contacts.”

