

What has happened

The thin membrane holding your lens implant has become cloudy. This is posterior capsule opacification. It is not the cataract returning, not a sign your surgery failed, and not a problem with your implant.

What the laser does

A YAG laser makes a small, precise opening in the cloudy membrane behind your lens implant, clearing your line of sight. The implant itself is not treated or replaced and remains in place. There is no cut and no injection, it takes two to five minutes per eye, and it is permanent.

Do you need it now

Treatment is offered when hazy vision, glare or halos genuinely interfere with daily life and scanning confirms the capsule is the cause. It is not urgent, and waiting does not damage the eye. If your scans show something else is limiting your vision, a laser will not help and we will say so.

Your retina is scanned first, every time

Blue Fin Vision® performs an OCT scan of your retina before every YAG, without exception and at no charge, whether your original surgery was here or elsewhere. A cloudy capsule and a macular problem cause similar symptoms, and the retina is hard to see through a cloudy capsule. Some pathways proceed on examination alone, so ask any provider whether a scan is included.

On the day

- Eat, drink and take medication normally. Allow about two hours in total.
- Drops widen the pupil and numb the eye. A small contact lens rests on the surface.
- You see a bright light and hear quiet clicks. Most people feel nothing.
- A pressure-lowering drop is given, and your pressure is checked before you leave.
- Do not drive yourself home. Your pupil stays dilated for several hours.

Afterwards

Vision is often clearer within hours. A short course of anti-inflammatory drops is usual. There are no restrictions on washing, bending, screens or exercise. New floaters are expected and usually settle.

Main risks

Pressure inside the eye can rise in the first hours, which is why it is checked before you leave; closer monitoring applies if you have glaucoma. Retinal tear and detachment can follow: in a database study of more than 67 000 treatments the rates were 0.29 per cent and 0.87 per cent at five months, higher if you are short-sighted. Fluid can collect at the macula in a small number of eyes. Small marks on the implant are possible but rarely significant.

Warning signs, seek assessment the same day

A sudden shower of new floaters rather than the gradual few expected. Flashes of light. A shadow or curtain across your vision. Increasing pain with halos or nausea. Vision getting worse rather than better. These stay relevant for years, not just the first week.

One eye or both

Where both eyes need treatment, the second can usually be treated at the same visit or shortly afterwards, depending on how the first eye behaves and on your pressure check. There is no clinical disadvantage in separating the two.

If you have a multifocal or extended depth of focus lens

Premium implants are more sensitive to the size and position of the opening, because their optical rings rely on light passing cleanly through the whole optic. Assessment is more detailed in these eyes and the opening is planned accordingly. Tell us which lens you have, or we will confirm it from your records.

If your vision does not improve

That is information rather than failure. It usually means something other than the capsule was limiting your sight, which is why the scan taken before treatment, and its comparison afterwards, matters.

Costs, if your surgery was performed here

Assessment, examination and retinal scan: no charge. YAG laser: £750 one eye, £1,200 both eyes.

Costs, if your surgery was performed elsewhere

Consultation and diagnostic scans: £325. YAG laser: £750 one eye, £1,200 both eyes.

What the laser fee includes

Your treatment by a Blue Fin Vision® consultant surgeon, your retinal scan, pressure check, drops, follow-up review, and any further treatment to enlarge an opening we have made. Most insurers cover YAG capsulotomy, subject to authorisation.

This page is a summary, not a consent document

It does not replace the full YAG Laser Capsulotomy patient information booklet, which contains the complete information on assessment, risks, warning signs and costs, and which forms part of your informed consent alongside your discussion with your surgeon and your consent form. Please read the full booklet before your appointment. In full: [YAG Capsulotomy Checklist](#) | [YAG laser capsulotomy costs](#) | [The Blue Fin Vision® Advantage](#)