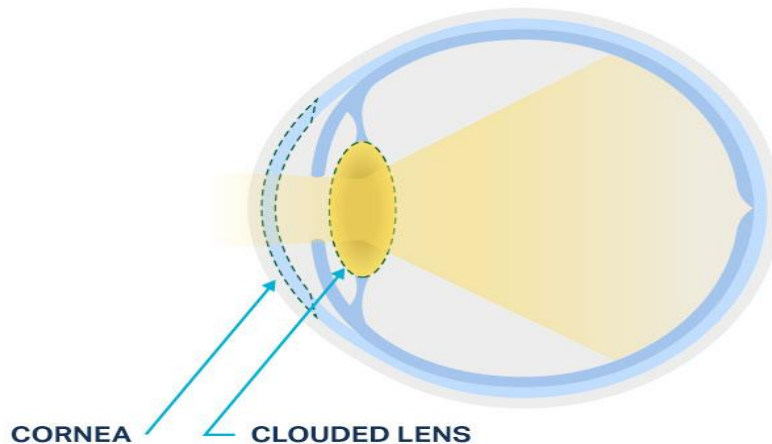


CATARACT



A cataract is a clouding of the natural intraocular crystalline lens that focuses the light entering the eye onto the retina. This cloudiness can cause a decrease in vision and may lead to eventual blindness if left untreated.

Cataracts often develop slowly with a gradual decline in vision that cannot be corrected with glasses.

Common complaints include blurry vision, difficulty reading in dim light, poor vision at night, glare and halos around lights, and occasionally double vision. Other signs of cataracts include frequent changes in the prescription of glasses and a new ability to read without reading glasses in patients over 55.

Mild/Moderate Cataract

While you do have cataracts, they do not appear to be significantly impacting your quality of life at this time. A new pair of glasses should help improve your vision.

Visually Significant Cataract:

After examination today your cataracts appear to be the cause of your decreased vision. A new pair of glasses will not improve your visual acuity. Cataract surgery is necessary to improve your vision.