We encourage you to use this list when discussing cataract surgery with your optometrist or ophthalmologist.

1. A skilled surgical team
Choose a surgeon you trust, especially when it comes to experience. An experienced surgeon typically performs more than 2,000 cataract surgeries per year. In addition, their entire team should be made of highly trained ophthalmic professionals. Have they received referrals from other surgeons? Have they done both traditional and laser surgery? Researching your surgeon on the web should easily answer these questions.

2. Comprehensive education program
Your surgeon should fully explain what cataracts are, how they affect your vision, and what all of your options are. Get educated on these options so you can make the best decision for your life.

3. Commitment to delivering the world’s best technology
This can be hard to a patient to evaluate, but it’s critical. The most important thing is that the surgeon is comfortable with a state of the art technology that goes into cataract surgery. This includes the femtosecond laser, wavefront analysis, intraocular lens options and more. A variety of lens types go in the eye. These technologies allow the surgeon to determine what is best for your eye.

4. Lens Analysis
The HD-OA and the RISCE are sophisticated technologies that can determine cataracts in a manner that has never been done before. The RISCE looks at the optical properties of your eye in a different way than any other modality. It determines if thickness is the cause of your blurring alone or in combination with a cataract. It then allows the surgeon to perform the best lens for your eyes.

5. Advanced Retinal Analysis with OCT
For the best results after cataract surgery, you need to be healthy. OCT provides a high magnitude view of important retina health. This tool helps surgeons assess the ideal alignment of lens at the time of surgery. Special software allows surgeon to carefully track outcomes and provides tools to evaluate new technologies. Tools such as proprietary tracking tools and software allow surgeons to inform patients of the results, continually refine techniques and critically evaluate new technologies. Tools such as proprietary tracking tools and software allow surgeons to inform patients of the results, continually refine techniques and critically evaluate new technologies.

6. Tear Film Analysis
A healthy tear film contributes to crisp vision. An abnormally low tear film can lead to blurry vision. The tear film is an important layer in health. It can be treated to maximize vision after even cataract surgery.

7. Angle Imaging Capability
The eye is the shape in which the cataract is created. This shape has a direct impact on outcomes. If necessary, this angle can be changed to see if you can reduce anterior chamber angle closure glaucoma, which can be caused by a thick cataract.

8. Pupil Size Measurements For Implant Customization
Pupil size or iris size, and certain other sizes are important for planning for certain eyes. By measuring in dim and bright light, your surgeon can determine the best implant type to match your vision needs.

9. Corneal Endothelial Analysis
The corneal endothelium is the thin tissue on the backside of the cornea. Unfortunately, it makes up 80% of your vision. This technology is constantly pushing water out of your cornea to help keep it clear for crisp vision. If corneal thickness is increased, analyzing this layer determines if thickness is the cause of blurring alone or in combination with a cataract. It then allows the surgeon to perform the best lens for your eyes.

10. Advanced Corneal Analysis
The cornea provides about 70% of the focusing power of the eye because of its shape. This corneal curvature needs to be smooth for sharp vision. If it is irregular, it can lead to impaired vision. This technology like the Moria OPD4M technology, Posterior or anterior topographies to measure corneal curvature and thickness, that quantify their relationship.

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12. Tear Film Analysis
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13. Advanced Lens Calculation Methods
Optical Biometry (Like the Tonovus) or Ultrasonic (iTrace) accurately measures the length of the eye, the curvature of the cornea and the distance between the cornea and the iris to help calculate the best implant power for your eye. For cataracts that are very dense, intraocular lens options are critical. To be sure your cataract surgeon is using the best technologies for you, they must have access to both technologies. Your surgeon should offer both approaches.

14. Advanced Cataract Removal Techniques
A cataract is removed through a small opening, which can be made in one of four ways. Traditional manual cataract surgery, using a blade or LASIK/ICL cataract surgery (using a laser). Your surgeon should offer both approaches.

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16. Small Incision, No Stitch Surgery
Most advanced cataract surgeons perform their excision through an incision smaller than 3.0mm, and stitches are rarely necessary. These small, self-healing incisions makes recovery easier, minimizes healing time and creates less astigmatism.

17. Intraocular Lens Implant Options
This may be the most important one. Some surgeons can only use one or two less implant options. However, new premium lenses can be customized to lessen your dependence on glasses, correct high levels of astigmatism or even eliminate glasses altogether. Choose a surgeon who can help you weigh alternative options, including traditional implants, aspheric implants, toric implants, multi-focal implants and accommodating implants.

18. Laser Vision Correction Capabilities + A Refractive Mindset
Highly precise laser vision correction technology allows your surgeon to reshape the cornea using either the WaveLight excimer laser technology or the Wavelight femtosecond laser technology or the Wavelight femtosecond laser technology. Some centers have both laser platforms, which is ideal.

19. A Convenient Timeline
Patients can become anxious waiting for an operation. Choose a surgeon with a system that allows you to have surgery within a month or so you can get on with life.

20. Tracked Outcomes
Surgery patients can track their outcomes confidently through digital results capability. This allows you to see how your results compare to other patients. Tools such as proprietary tracking tools and software allow surgeons to inform patients of the results, continually refine techniques and critically evaluate new technologies.
CATARACT
20 POINT CHECKLIST

What to look for when choosing the best surgery center for your cataract treatment.