ilumin in Omaha Offers Same-Day Bilateral Cataract Surgery, Enabling Patients to Have Both Eyes Treated in a Single Appointment

December 03, 2025

Omaha, Nebraska - December 03, 2025 -
Patients seeking cataract surgery in Omaha have access to modern, same-day bilateral cataract surgery, a procedure that allows both eyes to be treated during a single visit rather than requiring two separate surgeries weeks apart, at ilumin Eye Care Center. Brandon Menke, MD, cataract surgeon at ilumin, recently discussed this advancement in a KETV Very Local Business Spotlight interview, explaining who qualifies for the procedure and why it has become an increasingly valuable option for patients throughout the Omaha area.

Same-day bilateral cataract surgery represents a significant shift from traditional protocols that required patients to schedule separate procedures for each eye, typically spaced two to four weeks apart. This conventional approach meant patients experienced two distinct recovery periods and lived with mismatched vision between surgeries, as one eye would be corrected while the other remained impaired. Modern advancements in laser-assisted cataract surgery, precision imaging technology, improved intraocular lens designs, and enhanced safety protocols have made it possible for qualified patients to safely undergo treatment for both eyes in one appointment.

The medical benefits of treating both eyes simultaneously extend beyond convenience. Patients who are highly nearsighted face particular challenges when only one eye is corrected, as the significant difference in prescription between the treated and untreated eye can create visual imbalance and increase fall risk during the interim period. By completing both surgeries on the same day, patients avoid this period of mismatched prescriptions entirely and regain binocular vision more quickly.

"Most patients are great candidates for this surgery, because most patients want to get back to their lives as quickly as possible and have minimal downtime," said Dr. Menke. "Patients that are very nearsighted are great candidates so that we don't have to have this one-eye-distance, one-eye-near for that week or two wearing glasses in between with one lens and no lens. Medically, it reduces your risk of issues and falls. And also as far as just getting back to normal life, you're back to your normal life a lot quicker."

The procedure utilizes laser technology and advanced surgical planning equipment that has made the healing process both faster and safer than earlier generations of cataract surgery. Patients use eye drops for several weeks following the procedure but otherwise return to their normal routines without the extended downtime associated with staged surgeries. The streamlined approach also reduces the total number of pre-operative and post-operative appointments required, addressing practical concerns for patients who face transportation challenges or scheduling constraints.

Candidacy for same-day bilateral cataract surgery at ilumin is determined through comprehensive evaluation. Patients who want to return to work or daily activities quickly, those who prefer a single recovery window, individuals with high degrees of nearsightedness, and those who wish to avoid the balance issues associated with temporarily mismatched prescriptions are often well-suited for this approach. The expanded candidacy criteria reflect improvements in surgical technology and postoperative care protocols that have developed over recent years.

Cataracts remain one of the most common causes of vision impairment among older adults, with the condition affecting millions of Americans. The clouding of the eye's natural lens typically progresses gradually, eventually interfering with daily activities such as driving, reading, and recognizing faces. Surgical removal of the clouded lens and replacement with an artificial intraocular lens remains the only effective treatment for cataracts, and the procedure is among the most frequently performed surgeries in the United States.

ilumin provides cataract surgery services to patients throughout the Omaha, Nebraska metropolitan area, combining advanced laser cataract technology with modern intraocular lens options. The practice emphasizes personalized surgical planning tailored to each patient's visual needs and lifestyle requirements.

Patients experiencing symptoms of cataracts, including blurred vision, difficulty with night driving, sensitivity to glare, or fading of colors, may contact ilumin to schedule a comprehensive evaluation and determine whether same-day bilateral cataract surgery is appropriate for their situation.

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ilumin Eye Care Center

ilumin is Omaha?s premier provider of medical and surgical eye care. The ophthalmologists at ilumin offer refractive correction such as LASIK and RLE, treat medical conditions like cataracts and glaucoma, and provide general optical care.

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