

Kugler Vision Examines the Cost of Refractive Lens Exchange for Patients in Omaha, Nebraska

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Kugler Vision, a LASIK surgeon located in Omaha, Nebraska, has published a patient education article examining the long-term cost of Refractive Lens Exchange (RLE) compared with postponing treatment until cataracts develop later in life. The practice offers refractive lens exchange among its seven vision correction procedures and works with patients who are weighing their options as the eye's natural lens changes with age. The article, titled "Is Refractive Lens Exchange Cheaper Than Waiting for Cataracts? The Cost-Benefit Timeline No One Discusses," walks through the financial considerations that refractive lens exchange candidates face between treatment now and cataract surgery decades later.

Refractive Lens Exchange is available to patients across Omaha and Lincoln, Nebraska who want to address how the natural lens changes over time. Candidates are typically adults experiencing the early stages of these changes who want to address them before a cataract develops. The article describes Dysfunctional Lens Syndrome (DLS), a three-stage framework for these age-related changes. The first stage, presbyopia, typically begins in the mid-40s with the gradual loss of near focus. The second stage involves yellowing of the lens and reduced light transmission, often beginning in the mid-50s. The third stage is cataract formation, when the lens becomes cloudy enough to significantly impair vision. Refractive Lens Exchange replaces the natural lens with a synthetic intraocular lens, and because that lens is made of a biocompatible material that cannot develop cataracts, the treated eye is not expected to require cataract surgery in the future.

For residents of Omaha, Bellevue and Council Bluffs evaluating the financial side of that decision, the article reviews the costs associated with waiting. Medicare Part B covers 80 percent of the approved amount for standard cataract surgery after the annual deductible, which was approximately \$283 to \$288 in 2026, leaving patients responsible for the remaining 20 percent coinsurance. Premium lens upgrades, including multifocal, toric, extended depth of focus, and Light Adjustable Lens implants, are not covered by Medicare and add additional cost. The article also notes that glasses, contact lenses, and annual eye exams accumulated during a 15- to 25-year waiting period commonly total \$6,000 to \$15,000 or more, depending on prescription complexity. The article frames these figures as the often-overlooked cost of delaying treatment, noting that the premium lens technologies many patients eventually pay for are the same options available

through Refractive Lens Exchange today. Refractive Lens Exchange qualifies as a medical expense under Health Savings Account and Flexible Spending Account rules, and Kugler Vision offers financing through Alphaeon Credit with zero percent interest terms for qualifying patients.

"Many patients assume that waiting for cataracts is the more economical path, but that assumption often does not hold once premium lens upgrades and years of glasses, contacts, and exams are added together," said Dr. Lance Kugler, MD, PCEO, board-certified ophthalmologist, Fellow of the World College of Refractive Surgery, and founder of Kugler Vision. "Refractive Lens Exchange addresses the lens before cataracts form, and because the implanted lens cannot develop a cataract, it is designed to provide long-lasting vision correction. Our role is to walk each patient through the full timeline so they can make an informed decision rather than a rushed one." Dr. Kugler is the author of a peer-reviewed chapter on Refractive Lens Exchange diagnostics published by SLACK Incorporated.

Kugler Vision is led by two Fellows of the World College of Refractive Surgery, Dr. Lance Kugler and Dr. Drew Dickson, MD, PCEO, a credential held by fewer than 3.33 percent of refractive surgeons nationwide. Dr. Dickson, a board-certified ophthalmologist and Fellow of the World College of Refractive Surgery, and Dr. Kugler evaluate candidates across all three stages of Dysfunctional Lens Syndrome and screen each Refractive Lens Exchange candidate through a diagnostic workup. The practice reports that more than 80 percent of prospective patients who had previously been told elsewhere that they were not candidates for vision correction are found to have a treatment option after a full evaluation.

Kugler Vision is located at 17838 Burke Street, Suite 100, in Omaha, Nebraska, and provides Refractive Lens Exchange and laser vision correction to patients in Omaha, Lincoln, Bellevue, and Council Bluffs as well as the surrounding region. The practice draws patients from 47 states and several countries for its refractive surgery services. Each Refractive Lens Exchange consultation includes the practice's EyeAnalysis diagnostic workup, a Dysfunctional Lens Syndrome staging assessment, and a review of lens technology options, with the consultation fee applied toward the cost of the procedure. Driving directions to the practice are available through Google Maps.

For more information about Refractive Lens Exchange at Kugler Vision, the practice's website at lasikomaha.com offers additional patient education, and the Kugler Vision Google Business Profile provides location details and patient reviews. Kugler Vision was the first practice in Nebraska to offer all seven modern vision correction procedures and publishes resources to help individuals understand their options as their vision changes over time.

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For more information about Kugler Vision, contact the company here: [Kugler VisionKugler](http://KuglerVision.com)

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Kugler Vision

Kugler Vision is Omaha's leader in custom LASIK Eye Surgery and Laser Vision Correction Procedures. Led by Dr. Lance Kugler, Kugler Vision also provides SMILE, PRK, EVO ICL, Blended LASIK, and Refractive Lens Exchange (RLE) procedures.

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