Trust Your Vision to the Experts

As your complete eye care provider, we are here to take care of all your vision needs, from annual eye exams to laser vision correction surgery, oculoplastic surgery, botox or treatment for eye conditions, such as diabetes, glaucoma or cataracts. With four highly skilled physicians and a network of primary and satellite clinics across Northeast Georgia and Western North Carolina, we have over three decades of experience providing exceptional patient care. Trust your vision to the experts at Gainesville Eye Associates.

Jack M. Chapman Jr., M.D.
• Board Certified Ophthalmologist
• Medical College of Georgia

Clayton G. Blehm, M.D.
• Board Certified Ophthalmologist
• University of Texas-Houston Medical School

Lori C. Lebow, M.D.
• Board Certified Ophthalmologist
• University of Iowa

Zach R. Balest, M.D.
• Board Certified Ophthalmologist
• Medical College of Georgia

Primary Locations

Gainesville
2061 Beverly Road
Gainesville, GA 30501

Cornelia
120 Vision Drive
Cornelia, GA 30531

Braselton
Riverstone Medical Plaza
1255 Friendship Rd. Suite 160
Braselton, GA 30517

Consulting Offices

Blairsville
253 Highway 515 E
Building C
Blairsville, GA 30512

Clayton
(By Referral Only)
Wal-Mart-Dell, Engram, OD
1455 Highway 441 S
Clayton, GA 30525

Franklin, NC
(By Referral Only)
498 West Main
Franklin, NC 28734

Hayesville, NC
(By Referral Only)
1091 Highway 64 W
Hayesville, NC 29908

Hiawassee
(By Referral Only)
Joey Arencibia, OD
Main Street S
Hiawassee, GA 30546

Toccoa
Foothills Toccoa Clinic
274 Big A Road 344
Toccoa, GA 30577

Office Hours

Monday-Friday 8:00am-5:00pm
WHAT IS A CATARACT?

Cataracts are commonly caused by the natural aging process that occurs inside of the eye. It’s a gradual clouding of the eye’s natural lens that can, over time, make your vision less sharp if untreated.

Symptoms

Cataracts develop slowly and painlessly over time—in fact, in early stages, symptoms may be so mild that you may not even realize your vision is changing. However, as cataracts become more dense, you will experience one or more of the following:

- Blurry or cloudy vision
- Eyeglass prescription changes often, or no longer works
- Colors appear dull and washed out
- Difficulty reading in low light
- Poor night vision
- Halos or glare around light

Treatment

Surgery is the only treatment for cataracts. Cataract surgery is considered to be one of the safest and most successful procedures performed in medicine today. The surgery involves creating a microscopic incision through which the cataract is removed and a replacement intraocular lens (IOL) is implanted. This small incision seals itself naturally and allows for rapid healing. At one time, cataract surgery was considered risky and required a lengthy hospital stay, but with today’s advanced technology, it is an outpatient procedure, which reduces the inconvenience and expense for patients.

Laser Cataract Surgery

Gainesville Eye Associates is the first practice in Georgia to use an innovative technology called Verion in March 2014. This is an image-guided system that guides the laser during cataract surgery, eliminating many of the surgical variables and achieving even better results. Gainesville Eye Associates ophthalmologists Dr. Jack Chapman and Dr. Clayton Blehm performed Georgia’s first laser cataract surgery in December 2011, bringing a new advancement in cataract treatment to the state and region. All four of Gainesville Eye’s ophthalmologists—Dr. Jack Chapman, Dr. Clayton Blehm, Dr. Lori Lebow and Dr. Zach Balest—are trained and perform the LenSx laser cataract surgery.

ORA System

The ORA System assesses your eye during cataract surgery, much like a GPS system tracks your progress on the road. With this data, your doctor can make real-time adjustments to achieve better results. While customized procedures are associated with an increased expense compared with basic cataract surgery, the investment may help reduce the need for glasses.

Which IOL is Right For You?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IOL Option</th>
<th>Near Vision</th>
<th>Intermediate Vision</th>
<th>Distance Vision</th>
<th>Astigmatism</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MULTI-FOCAL RESTOR LENS AND/OR ASTIGMATISM CORRECTION</td>
<td>[Image]</td>
<td>[Image]</td>
<td>[Image]</td>
<td>[Image]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Designed for multiple-focus lenses providing for near, intermediate and distance.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TORIC/ASTIGMATISM</td>
<td>[Image]</td>
<td>[Image]</td>
<td>[Image]</td>
<td>[Image]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Designed to increase clarity and decrease astigmatism. Patient will still need glasses for some activities.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MONOFOCAL STANDARD LENS</td>
<td>[Image]</td>
<td>[Image]</td>
<td>[Image]</td>
<td>[Image]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Designed to provide single focal point.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Your Cataract Surgery Options