

# Kevin C. Leonard BSc, MSc, MD, FRCSC

Eye Physician and Surgeon  
Professional Corporation

Phone 613.342.9756 | Fax 613.342.1119  
309 Park St, Suite 108 | Brockville, ON K6V 6E5

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## INFORMED CONSENT FOR YAG POSTERIOR CAPSULOTOMY

After modern cataract with lens implant surgery, the back membrane of the cataract is left in place to support the lens implant. This membrane may become cloudy and cause blurred vision, and sometimes patients will see streaks or haloes around lights. These problems worsen with time. This can occur in up to 50% of people after cataract surgery, appearing anytime from immediately post-op to many years after the initial surgery.

Fortunately, a modern YAG laser treatment can be done to open the cloudy membrane and clear the line of sight. Topical freezing drops are used and a contact lens is placed on the eye to focus the laser beam. There is no pain from the procedure and it takes less than 3 minutes. There is no restriction on physical activity or use of the eye after the procedure, and no eye patch is required.

Laser surgery is still surgery and complications can still occur. Some new floaters or spots may be seen and these will usually resolve in the first few days. Retinal swelling or detachment can rarely follow this type of surgery as well (< 1%). It is important to notify the doctor if you notice any decrease in peripheral vision, flashes of light, or new floaters that don't go away after the procedure. The eye pressure may rise temporarily after the YAG laser treatment.

THE ALTERNATE TREATMENTS AND THEIR RISKS AND BENEFITS  
HAVE BEEN EXPLAINED TO MY SATISFACTION. I HEREBY GIVE MY  
INFORMED CONSENT FOR A POSTERIOR CAPSULOTOMY IN MY  
RIGHT/LEFT EYE WITH THE YAG LASER.

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Patient (or person authorized to sign for patient)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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Surgeon (Dr. K Leonard)