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To provide a more accurate pathway for light to enter the eye all lasers eye surgeries reshape the cornea. The shape of the eye is twisted slightly causing permanent vision changes in cases of nearsightedness, farsightedness and astigmatism. Before deciding to undergo this surgery, one must know more about laser eye surgery in Birmingham.

When deciding to undertake laser eye surgery, there are several choices to examine. Starting with a method that is used to correct mild eye conditions, Photorefractive Keratotomy (PRK), we can simply understand each technique and then decide which one is most suitable for you. On the surface of the cornea, PRK uses cool pulsing ultraviolet light. PRK is highly accurate at one year when 80% of patients have 20/20 vision without glasses while the final results take longer to become known, and without glasses 95%-98% have 20/40 or better. As with LASIK, potential side effects are the same, such as glare, loss of crisp vision and haloes.

Next a treatment for farsightedness and astigmatism is LTK also known as Laser Thermokeratoplasty. To reshape the cornea, in this method heat is used, correcting the vision in a matter of seconds. No cutting or removal of tissue takes place. With this laser eye surgery method, pain or discomfort is rarely experienced however the change brought about is not permanent. To extend the length of time, LTK can intentionally over correct the correction and it will be effective too. At any rate, within 2 years, most patients see a 50% return to the former condition. On those patients over 40 years of age LTK is typically used. Laser eye surgery offers these techniques to their patients successfully.

The most popular method used is LASIK (Laser-assisted In Situ Keratomileusis) and in the last decade this technique has been successful to correct refractive errors of the eye, including astigmatism, nearsightedness and farsightedness. In the clear tissue at the front of the eye, this method of laser eye surgery creates a small flap. The cornea is reshaped after the flap is folded back and by using a laser technique this is quite simple. Without the need of stitches the flap is put back in position as it sticks on its own. Permanent changes are brought about by LASIK surgery hence this surgery is better than many other techniques. With this method most people find very little eye irritation as the flap provides protection for the eye. As any surgery, there can be certain possible side effects include decreased night vision including glare, dry eye, halos, sometimes infections and starburst. From 2 days to 6 weeks, results are noticed very quickly.

Laser eye surgery in Birmingham also offers an improved LASIK treatment known as the Wavefront-Guided LASIK, in which a very detailed map of how light emerges from the eye is created.

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[John Smith](#) - About Author:

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