



## TASMANIAN EYE CLINICS

EYE DOCTORS SPECIALISING AND CARING FOR YOUR EYES



# eye TALK

with Dr Gordon Wise

## Your questions answered on the topic of cataracts.

**What is a cataract?** Cataract is a clouding of the lens of the eye. The lens is an essential part of the eye, which changes the focus.

**What effect does cataract have on myself as a patient?**

Cataract can have many different effects. It can cause a generalised clouding of vision, glare problem, difficulty with reading, and a mixture of all the above.

**Can you see cataract from the outside of the eye?** No. Cataract is diagnosed by an eye care professional on ocular examination.

**Do all cataracts need surgery?** No! Many people have minor degrees of cataract requiring no treatment at all. Surgery is performed when it interferes with the patient's normal life activities.

**Is the operation difficult or painful?** No! Cataract is dealt with as an outpatient procedure, usually in a day surgery facility and performed under a local anaesthetic with adequate sedation.

**What is actually done in the course of a cataract operation?** The cloudy lens is replaced with an artificial lens, like a new windowpane inside the eye.

**Are all the lenses which are used inside the eye the same?** No. There are many new high technology artificial lenses available now which perform a variety of different functions such as correcting astigmatism, helping with near vision, etc. These are calculated from computer programs to achieve the desired visual effect for the patient.

For more info visit [www.taseye.com.au](http://www.taseye.com.au)

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