

WHY LASER  
VISION  
CORRECTION  
WITH  
**SMILE?**

BECAUSE IT'S  
**MINIMALLY  
INVASIVE** AND  
FAST IN **HEALING.**

**PATIENT INFORMATION** | Laser Vision Correction





I WANT GOOD  
VISION WITHOUT  
GLASSES.  
**WHAT CAN  
I DO?**

**WE  
UNDERSTAND  
YOUR WISHES –  
WE CAN HELP.**

**Dear patient,**

Would you like to see your partner's face clearly without glasses? Or would you like to play sports without the fear of broken glasses? Especially in situations like these, many people would love to be able to see clearly – without glasses or contact lenses!

Fortunately, thanks to medical advancements, many refractive errors can be treated with laser eye surgery. The most advanced technique – small incision lenticule extraction – is called SMILE. It is used to treat short-sightedness and astigmatism. The procedure is very precise, virtually pain-free and a valuable option also for people with an active lifestyle.

The team at our clinic is very experienced in performing laser vision corrections and has helped many people improve their visual freedom. Learn more about the benefits of SMILE!





HOW DOES  
**SMILE** WORK?

**IT'S QUICK  
AND GENTLE.**

## **A comfortable treatment experience**

**Small incision lenticule extraction**, or SMILE, is an advanced laser vision correction procedure. As a minimally invasive treatment, it offers many advantages: SMILE is usually very comfortable and stress-free. Patients mostly don't feel any discomfort during the procedure and there is no odor or noise.

**Before the treatment**, anesthetic eye drops are applied to the eye to ensure that the surgery is virtually painless. An eyelid holder prevents the eye from blinking during surgery. The procedure itself takes just a few minutes and requires only three steps.

## **SMILE treatment steps**

**1**

### **CREATING THE LENTICULE**

A small piece of corneal tissue (lenticule) and a small incision are created inside the cornea.

**2**

### **REMOVING THE LENTICULE**

The lenticule is removed through the small incision from inside the cornea.

**3**

### **CORRECTING THE ERROR**

Removing the lenticule changes the shape of the cornea, achieving the desired refractive correction.





WHAT MAKES  
**SMILE**  
BETTER?

IT'S  
**MINIMALLY  
INVASIVE** AND  
FAST IN **HEALING.**

## How you can benefit from **SMILE**

### **Minimally invasive**

SMILE requires only a small incision of about 2–4 mm – the size of the tip of a pencil. This allows for potentially high biomechanical preservation and stability.

### **Generally fast healing**

SMILE requires no flap, which enables a fast recovery of corneal sensitivity and of a normal tear film. In addition, there is only a low risk of infection or transient eye syndrome.

### **Quickly back to normal**

With SMILE, full visual recovery can usually occur within just a few days following your surgery. Normally, you will be able to drive, work and participate in sports without glasses or contact lenses just a few days following treatment.

### **Suited for many people**

Patients with dry eyes or contact lens intolerance can benefit from the SMILE procedure. SMILE is also suited for people with an active lifestyle, e.g. athletes, flight crews, and military and rescue personnel.





HOW IS  
ReLEx® SMILE  
PERFORMED?

WITH  
**VisuMax®**  
FROM ZEISS.

**VisuMax® – a groundbreaking femtosecond laser**

**Fast and accurate**  
ReLEx® SMILE is performed on the VisuMax® femtosecond laser system from ZEISS. It is characterised by its high speed, precision, high laser frequency and gentle treatment technique. The results are short treatment times and high accuracy for patients.

**Comfortable contact glass**  
VisuMax® works with a virtually pain-free, anatomically shaped contact glass that resembles the natural shape of the cornea. It works with mild suction and actively controls a constant low compression on the eye during surgery. During treatment, it feels just like putting a contact lens into your eye.



WHAT'S  
**SPECIAL**  
ABOUT ReLEx®  
SMILE?

IT WAS  
DEVELOPED  
BY **ZEISS.**

## It's time to SMILE

With the introduction of ReLEx® SMILE from ZEISS – the first and only SMILE solution thus far – minimally invasive surgery became a reality for patients around the world.

ZEISS developed the unique and innovative SMILE procedure – the latest advancement in Laser Vision Correction beside PRK and LASIK. The entire procedure is performed with VisuMax® from ZEISS, a high-precision femtosecond laser system.

More and more clinics are offering the SMILE treatment – and so do we. In fact, it is quickly becoming a preferred procedure for correcting myopia in countries where SMILE is already available.

**So far, more than 1.5 million eyes have been successfully treated with SMILE around the world.**







**WHY DOES  
OUR CLINIC  
WORK WITH  
ZEISS?**

**BECAUSE WE  
SHARE THE  
SAME HIGH  
STANDARDS.**



**High standards lead to  
outstanding results:**

- ZEISS has been a pioneer in optical science for 170 years
- The first photo on the moon was taken with a ZEISS lens
- More than 30 Nobel Prize winners worked with ZEISS microscopes
- ZEISS solutions for laser eye surgery are safe, precise, and reliable
- The minimally invasive SMILE procedure was developed by ZEISS

**A powerful partnership for your vision**





**WHAT ELSE  
MAY I NEED  
TO KNOW?**

**CONSULT  
WITH YOUR  
EYE DOCTOR.**

## **Frequently asked questions about SMILE**

If you are considering SMILE surgery, you probably have many questions. Some of the most frequent ones are addressed here. This information is not intended to replace consultation with your eye doctor.

### **How do I prepare?**

If you wear contact lenses, most surgeons recommend switching to glasses a few weeks before surgery. You are advised not to apply makeup, lotions or perfume the day you have surgery. Also, it is suggested that you arrange to have someone bring you home afterward.

### **What happens after surgery?**

Following surgery, you will need to go home and rest. A protective bandage or eye shield is placed over the eye to avoid rubbing it. Eye drops and possibly other medication are typically prescribed to prevent infection and aid in the healing process. It is customary to have a post-op examination the next day. Further follow-up checks are usually scheduled for the following weeks or months.

### **Is it safe?**

Complications following SMILE surgery are very rare, but cannot be completely ruled out. Your eye doctor will discuss these with you.

### **What can be treated with SMILE?**

#### *Nearsightedness (myopia):*

When you are nearsighted, distant objects appear blurry, while objects that are up close are clear.

#### *Astigmatism:*

Astigmatism causes objects at different distances to appear skewed or distorted. Normally, astigmatism is corrected with eyeglasses fitted with cylindrical (toric) lenses or with special contact lenses.

### **What is a femtosecond laser?**

A femtosecond laser is a laser that sends ultra-short light pulses (one femtosecond = 0.000000000000001 seconds).



Please feel invited to contact our team  
if you have any questions.

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