

GENERAL ILASIK / INTRALASE INFORMATION

- Surgery is performed off-site to ensure Dr. Koenig has access to the most up-to-date technology.
- If you are eligible, and would like to utilize WaveScan Technology to customize your procedure, please call **262-789-9090** to schedule a 15 minute appointment at the laser center in Brookfield prior to your surgery. Your eyes should not be dilated when you arrive, and they will not be dilated during your appointment. Prior to this appointment, your contacts must be left out for the same length of time they were left out before your evaluation with Dr. Koenig. Lisa will call you with the results of this testing to let you know if we will be able to customize your procedure.
- Payment for your surgery must be received prior to your surgery date.
- Prior to your procedure, you will be given prescriptions for Valium, Percocet and an antibiotic eye drop. Please have these prescriptions filled before your surgery, and bring the medications with you the day of your procedure. Do not begin using any of the medications until instructed by a nurse at the laser center.
- It is best to **eat a snack prior to your surgery**. You will be taking medication at the laser center, and we would prefer you not take this medication on an empty stomach, as it could make you nauseous.
- Before surgery, a nurse will put anesthetic drops in your eyes, which typically wear off approximately 20 minutes after your procedure.
- Dr. Koenig performs the first step of your surgery by utilizing the IntraLase laser to create a flap. This process can take up to one minute per eye. You will not see anything while the flap is being created, but you may notice a pressure sensation.
- During the second step of your surgery, Dr. Koenig lifts the flap and utilizes the VISX Star S4 laser to reshape your cornea. You will not feel anything during this step. You will be focusing on a red blinking light for approximately 6 – 60 seconds, depending on your prescription.
- After surgery, Dr. Koenig will put drops in your eyes and THEN move the flap down into place. Because of these drops, there is now fluid between the layers of your cornea. This means when you open your eyes after surgery, your vision will be blurry, as though you're looking under water, and your eyes will more sensitive to light.
- After surgery, you should not drive for the remainder of the day. When you arrive home, try to take a 3 - 4 hour nap. The more your eyes are closed, the more opportunity the fluid has to absorb, allowing you to see more clearly the next day.

- Before you leave the laser center, the nurse will prompt you to take a pain pill. This is because the numbing drops typically wear off about 20 minutes after surgery, and as the numbing drops wear off, we'd like the pain pill to begin taking effect. During surgery, Dr. Koenig is able to create a beveled edge in which the flap can rest securely. But it typically takes 12 – 24 hours for the fluid to absorb enough to allow the flap to settle in. During that time, it's normal to feel the outer edges of the flap when you blink, which can lead to the eye feeling dry, itchy, scratchy and teary. If you take a pain pill, these symptoms can be alleviated, allowing you to feel comfortable enough to fall asleep.
- We will provide you with shields to wear while you sleep for the first 7 days after surgery.
- The day after surgery you will need to see Dr. Koenig **at the Eye Institute** for a brief follow-up appointment. You will be able to drive, however for one to three days your vision will be somewhat blurry, as though you're wearing an older pair of glasses.
- Due to some blurriness for the first few days after surgery, we recommend doctors, nurses, pilots and pharmacists not return to work for 2-3 days after surgery.
- It can take up to 14 days for the outer edges of the flap to tack down, so you should avoid getting anything in your eyes for the first two weeks after surgery. This means you should avoid, for example, eye make-up, cleansers with particulate matter, sand, swimming pools and hot tubs. When you wash your face or bathe, you should close your eyes to avoid getting soap or water in your eyes, and you should avoid rubbing your eyes for one month.
- After surgery, you do not need to avoid air travel as long as you keep in mind that airplanes and hotel rooms are known to be exceptionally dry environments, and it may be beneficial to keep **preservative-free** tears at hand.
- After surgery you can exercise, however you should not allow perspiration to get into your eyes, and you should be careful to avoid accidentally rubbing your eyes, in an attempt to wipe away perspiration.
- Dr. Koenig would like to see you one day, one week and three months after surgery. You may see him as frequently as you'd like, up to one year after surgery. There is no fee for these appointments, however the reason for the appointment must be directly related to your surgery. After one year, the flap has healed and you should no longer need to see Dr. Koenig. At that point, we encourage you to have annual comprehensive eye exams, so please let us know if you'd like the name of an optometrist here at The Eye Institute.
- Enhancements are not commonly needed. However, if an Enhancement is recommended, it must be scheduled within one year of your original surgery. There is no fee for this procedure, or for your follow-up appointments up to one year after the Enhancement.
- Please call Lisa at **414-955-7902** with any questions.