

# ***Astigmatism Correction and Cataract surgery***

Cataract surgery alone may not correct your astigmatism. At the time of your surgery, astigmatism can be corrected with additional incisions designed to relax corneal steepening and correct astigmatism.

This is called "Astigmatic Keratotomy" or "AK." A few additional tests performed in the office prior to your surgery allow the astigmatism to be precisely measured. Additional calculations are then made to plan the placement, depth, and number of incisions to be made at the time of surgery.

The procedure involves making tiny incisions to change the curvature of the cornea. This is done just prior to beginning the cataract surgery and extends the surgery time by only a few minutes.

*For the clearest vision without glasses after surgery, it may be necessary to correct your astigmatism.*

If you have astigmatism and want a presbyopia-correcting lens implant like the crystalens, Tecnis MultiFocal, or ReSTOR, your astigmatism, if any, will be corrected as part of the surgical treatment, included in the cost of the upgrade.

Feel free to contact us if you have any questions or would like to have your astigmatism corrected at the time of surgery.



816 24<sup>th</sup> Ave N.W. Norman, OK  
(405) 701-8408 fax (405) 701-8407  
[www.drjoshuapowell.com](http://www.drjoshuapowell.com)

## ***What is Astigmatism?***

**"Refractive error"** is the term for an eye with abnormal focus.

When the focus of the eye is in front of the retina, the refractive error is **"Myopia,"** also called nearsightedness.

When the focus of the eye is behind the retina, the eye said to be have **"Hyperopia,"** or far-sightedness.

When the eye focuses on multiple points instead of a single point, the term is **"astigmatism."**