

## The strong desire to see clearly

Modern methods to correct common vision disorders

Good vision is something everyone wants, but not everyone has naturally. Eye conditions such as nearsightedness, farsightedness and astigmatism, so-called refractive errors, are very common.

Eyeglasses and contact lenses offer a suitable solution. However, some people consider them inconvenient. They just want to see clearly without visual aids.

Today, most refractive errors can be effectively treated with modern Laser Vision Correction methods. In particular, three generations of procedures are widely available today: PRK, LASIK and SMILE.

Whether Laser Vision Correction is right for you depends on various factors. Your eye doctor can assist you in determining the best option for your vision needs and lifestyle preferences.



Patient information

*This flyer is only for basic information. It is not to be considered medical advice or a substitute for obtaining your own medical consultation, during which you will be informed also about possible risks, side effects and restrictions of refractive surgery.*

## Thinking about Laser Vision Correction?

An overview of treatment options

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**Carl Zeiss Meditec AG**

Goeschwitzer Strasse 51-52

07745 Jena

Germany

[www.zeiss.com/meditec/laser-eye-surgery](http://www.zeiss.com/meditec/laser-eye-surgery)

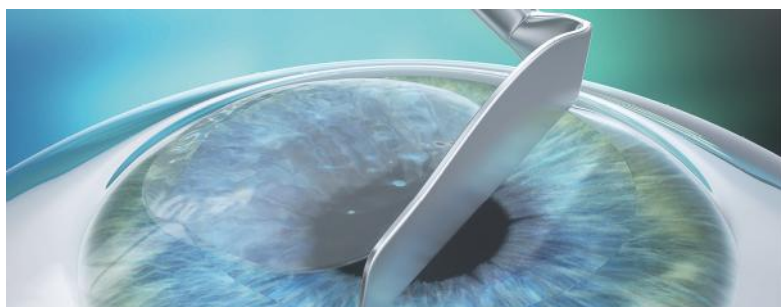
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# Understanding PRK, LASIK and SMILE

## The Three Generations of Laser Vision Correction

Refractive surgery is a widely performed treatment approach for correcting various vision impairments. The field has seen many advancements within a relatively brief span of only 30 years, as reflected by the three generations of Laser Vision Correction available today: PRK, LASIK and SMILE.



### PRK

Surface ablation surgery

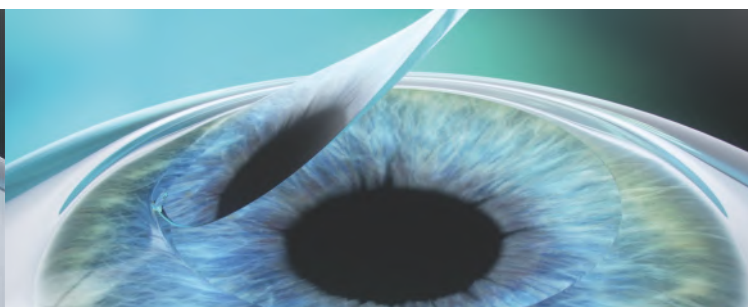
#### 1<sup>st</sup> Generation Laser Vision Correction

##### Treatment steps

- The outer layer of the cornea (epithelium) is dissolved with alcohol or a brush.
- The layer is removed or moved to the side.
- The vision is corrected through tissue ablation with an excimer laser.
- A protective contact lens is placed over the eye.

##### Characteristics

- More suitable for patients with thin corneas
- Least expensive Laser Vision Correction procedure



### LASIK

Flap surgery

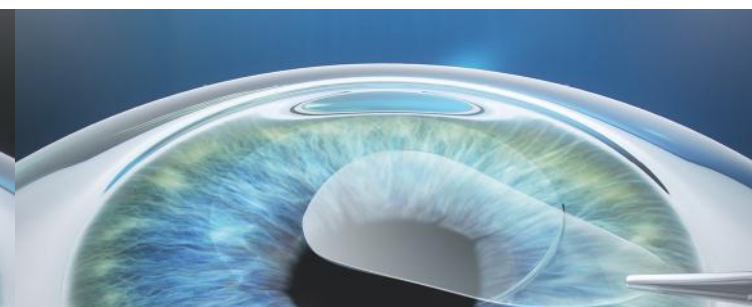
#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Generation Laser Vision Correction

##### Treatment steps

- A flap, a hinged piece of tissue, is created with a controlled blade (LASIK) or highly precise femtosecond laser (Femto-LASIK).
- The flap is carefully folded back to treat the corneal tissue.
- The vision is corrected through tissue ablation with an excimer laser.
- The flap is returned to its original position.

##### Characteristics

- Treatment standard for over 20 years
- Normally quick visual recovery
- Performed by many clinics and doctors



### SMILE

Minimally invasive, flapless surgery

#### 3<sup>rd</sup> Generation Laser Vision Correction

##### Treatment steps

- A small piece of corneal tissue (lenticule) and a small incision are created inside the cornea.
- The lenticule is removed through the small incision.
- By removing the lenticule, the vision correction is achieved.

##### Characteristics

- Advanced Laser Vision Correction
- Minimally invasive and gentle with only a small incision
- Supports a comfortable and stress-free patient experience