

Preoperative Instructions for Yag Laser Vitreolysis

This procedure is easy for the patient. There is no pain. An eye drop is used to numb the eye and a contact lens is then inserted. The contact lens keeps the eye open and slows down eye movement. You are asked to look in different directions while the laser is used to obliterate the floaters.

You will **see** during this procedure:

- A white light used to eliminate the floaters.
- A red light which is the aiming beam of the laser (the working beam is invisible)
- Usually a light flash from the laser is fired.
- Particles that appear to be falling down in the eye after some laser shots. These particles are **gas bubbles that are going up in the eye.**

You will **hear** this during the procedure:

- My voice giving instructions.
- My hand on the joystick constantly focusing, raising and lowering the laser between each shot.
- A snap when the laser is fired.

Post-operative Instructions

Your vision will be somewhat blurred for 48 hours. This is because the eye is dilated. There is still some lubrication on the eye from the contact lens. There may be some dazzle from the laser and there are now gas bubbles in the eye.

You may feel that there are more floaters now than before the procedure. This is because you are seeing gas bubbles in the vitreous. These bubbles will disappear by the day after the laser.

Occasionally, on the day of surgery, patients will have a foreign body sensation, tearing and a slight runny nose on the side of the eye that had surgery. This comes from a slight abrasion on the front of the eye from the contact lens used during surgery. This is almost always better by the next morning.

If you have **any trouble**, call your doctor at his office.

What is trouble? Call if you have a lot of pain, if your vision suddenly drops significantly, you develop lightning flashes in the eye, have a loss of vision in one area, the eye turns red or if there is anything else that worries you.

On your next visit, _____ at _____ a.m/p.m., we will assess everything in detail.