

LASER EYE SURGERY COMPARISON CHART



This is a general guide to the laser eye surgery available at Vision Eye Institute Melbourne – the end visual result is the same for all three procedures.

	PRK (also called ASLA and transPRK)	LASIK	SMILE/SMILE PRO
Age range	18–45	18–45	18–45
Approved for	Long-sightedness Short-sightedness Astigmatism	Long-sightedness Short-sightedness Astigmatism	Short-sightedness Astigmatism Long-sightedness
Prescription range	+2 to -8 and cyl (stable for 12 months)	+4 to -10 and 4.50 cyl (stable for 12 months)	-3 to -10 and 4.50 cyl (stable for 12 months)
Invasiveness	Relatively non-invasive surface treatment	Requires creation of a corneal flap	Requires lasered corneal lenticule to be removed
Discomfort during healing	Mild/moderate in early healing	Very little	Very little
Initial visual recovery (return to normal activities)	Slower than LASIK and SMILE (at least 1 week of downtime)	Very quick (usually overnight)	Very similar to LASIK (sometimes slightly slower in first few days)
Complete visual stabilisation	6–12 months	3–6 months	3–6 months
Advantages	No corneal flap Suitable for thinner or irregular corneas 'No touch' transPRK most commonly used	Fastest initial visual recovery Quick return to normal activities	No corneal flap More suitable than LASIK for higher refractive errors and drier eyes Fastest return to contact sports (around day 5)
Limitations	Slowest recovery of all procedures At least 1 week before return to driving/work	Not suitable for thin or steep corneas or chronic dry eyes At least 1 month to resume contact sports	Not suitable for thin corneas or moderate dry eye
LASER EYE SURGERY PACKAGE*	\$3,250 PER EYE (\$6,500 FOR BOTH EYES) INCLUDES all pre-operative tests and assessments, surgeon consultation, surgeon fee, laser fee, medications, protective goggles, aftercare appointments for 6 months and recommended enhancements within 2 years		

*Medibank members with selected extras and packaged covers can receive a 15% reduction on the surgical fee. An initial assessment is required to determine which is the most appropriate procedure for you. This involves comprehensive testing and measurement of your eyes, as well as an in-depth discussion with a vision correction surgeon about your visual goals and lifestyle considerations, realistic visual outcome, potential risks, recovery period and costs. A quote will be provided after this consultation. Payment plans are available (subject to T&Cs). SMILE® is a registered trademark of Carl Zeiss Meditec.

Book a complimentary assessment at visioneyeinstitute.com.au/free-laser-eye-surgery-assessments