

Advice regarding retinal laser

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There are no special preparations before eye laser treatment. You should eat normally and take your regularly prescribed medications before surgery.

Retinal laser surgery is performed in the consulting room or a special laser room.

Eye drops will be given to dilate the pupil and numb the eye. The treatment is performed while you are seated in a chair, similar to the one used for regular eye examinations. You will remain awake and comfortable.

Treatment is usually painless, although some patients may require a numbing injection for discomfort or sensitivity to the laser light. Patients who have laser treatment for diabetic retinopathy may experience more discomfort towards the end of a laser treatment session.

The laser treatment usually takes less than 30 minutes to complete, and you can go home immediately following surgery.

Arrangements for transportation should be made in advance since you may not be able to drive right away.

You may expect blurred vision for the rest of the day after laser treatment.

There are virtually no restrictions following retinal laser surgery, and you should be able to resume your normal activities and work schedule the following day.

Most patients notice no vision changes following their laser surgery, although there may be some temporary blurring for several weeks to months. In addition, depending on the condition being treated, some may notice a permanent blind spot or decrease in peripheral and night vision.

It will take several weeks to months before we can tell whether the laser surgery has been successful.

Many patients, however, will need more than one treatment to control their eye problem and prevent further loss of vision.

Disclaimer: This information leaflet is produced to help increase awareness in patients undergoing retinal laser. It is not intended to replace professional medical advice or to provide advice in any special individual circumstance. Please seek expert medical advice regarding your specific medical condition.