

Key community eye health messages



Respectful communication improves patient trust

- Explain the benefits, risks and expected outcomes of cataract surgery in the patient's preferred language, using words they can easily understand
- Discuss patients' visual needs and available IOL options before surgery to help them make informed choices
- Ask about barriers such as travel costs, lack of family support and difficulty attending follow-up visits, and help patients plan ahead



Clear postoperative instructions support safe recovery

- Give patients verbal and written instructions on eye care, medicines, follow-up visits and warning signs
- Show patients and family members how to use eye drops correctly and check their understanding
- Explain that mild discomfort, watering, redness and blurred vision are common after surgery but should gradually improve
- Before discharge, check that patients have their medicines, clinic contact details and follow-up appointment information



Informed IOL selection improves patient satisfaction

- Ask patients about their daily activities and near- and distance-vision needs before discussing IOL options
- Explain expected visual outcomes to patients with myopia, especially those used to seeing clearly up close without spectacles
- Discuss the benefits, limitations, possible side-effects and costs of different IOL options
- Record patients' visual needs and preferences and involve them in choosing the most suitable IOL