



Ophthalmology • Refractive Surgery
 Laser, Cataract & Implant Surgery

Finding an Eye Care Professional

www.theeyecenter.com



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The National Eye Institute does not provide referrals or recommend specific eye care professionals. However, you may wish to consider the following ways of finding a professional to provide your eye care.

The National Eye Institute (NEI), a part of the National Institutes of Health, is the Federal Government's principal agency for conducting and supporting research on the prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and rehabilitation of eye diseases and disorders of the visual system.

Inclusion in this resource sheet does not imply endorsement by the National Eye Institute or the National Institutes of Health.

- Ask family members and friends about eye care professionals they use.
- Ask your family doctor for the name of a local eye care specialist.
- Call the department of ophthalmology or optometry at a nearby hospital, university medical center or medical school.
- Contact a state or county association of ophthalmologists or optometrists. These groups, usually called academies or societies, may have lists of eye care professionals with specific information on specialty and experience.
- The American Academy of Ophthalmology coordinates FIND AN OPHTHALMOLOGIST an on-line listing of member ophthalmologists practicing in the United States and abroad. This service is designed to help the general public locate ophthalmologists within a specific region. Website: <http://www.eyenet.org/>

Alexandria
703-931-9100

Fairfax
703-573-8080

Sterling
703-430-4400

Leesburg
703-858-3170

- At a bookstore or library, check on available journals and books about choosing a physician and medical treatment. Here are some examples:
- Most large libraries have the reference set *The ABMS Compendium of Certified Medical Professionals*, which lists board-certified ophthalmologists, each with a small amount of biographical information. A library reference specialist can also help you identify other books on finding health care professionals or help you seek additional information about local eye physicians using the Internet.
- *A Patient's Guide to Surgery*, by Edward L. Bradley, M.D., Consumer Reports Books, October 1994, contains a chapter about choosing a surgeon and a hospital.
- Each year usually in August the magazine U.S. News and World Report features an article that rates hospitals in the United States.
- Contact your insurance company or health plan to learn whether it has a list of eye care professionals that are covered under your plan.