

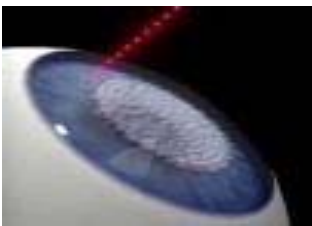
Ophthalmologist



An Ophthalmologist is a doctor who performs eye exams, diagnoses eye problems and prescribes medicines or corrective lenses to help people see better. You have probably been to see an ophthalmologist to have your eyes checked. It is important to have your vision checked regularly.



Surgeon



Sometimes people will be diagnosed with a condition that can be corrected with surgery. As a surgeon, the ophthalmologist can treat eye conditions such as myopia or diabetic retinopathy. These surgeons are trained to work with lasers whenever possible!

Researcher

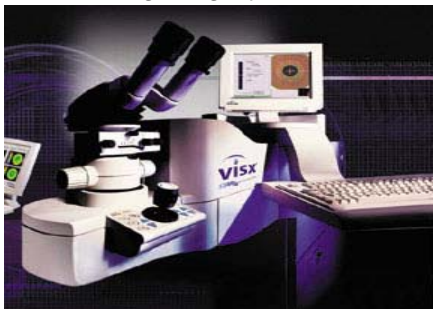
Many ophthalmologists also conduct research on diseases that affect the eye. Researchers at the Cleveland Clinic have made many discoveries that have improved treatment for a disease called diabetic retinopathy that can cause blindness in people with diabetes. Doctors get great satisfaction from helping their patients through scientific discoveries!



If you like variety, than perhaps this is the career for you! Ophthalmologists who see patients, perform surgery and do research never have a chance to get bored. To become an ophthalmologist, study hard so you can go to a college with a strong science program. After college, you will need four years of medical school and several years of special training in ophthalmology where you will learn to do everything discussed here!

Technology Spotlight

Often, eye surgeons can use special surgical lasers to treat their patients. Lasers can be used to help people see without glasses or contact lenses. They can also be used to correct a condition known as diabetic retinopathy that commonly occurs in people with diabetes. Using a special laser, the surgeon can eliminate blood vessels that are growing into the eye and blocking vision. Without this surgery, people with diabetic retinopathy slowly become blind. The machine shown below helps the surgeon guide the laser during surgery. How else can lasers be useful?



Other Uses for Lasers

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.