

WERE YOU REALLY TOLD THE POTENTIAL RISKS OF YOUR SURGERY?

By Attorney Sandra L. Bucha

Cataract surgery has long been considered one of the safest and most commonly performed procedures. However, complications from this type of surgery do occur. If the doctor clearly explained the options, these complications could have been avoided.

A cataract is basically just a clouding of the lens of the eye. Cataract surgery involves surgical removal of the natural lens and replacement with an artificial lens. There are several types of artificial lenses available to the surgeon. It is important the surgeon explain all options and risks so the patient can make an informed, educated choice in which lens to use. **If you or a loved one has had complications as a result of cataract surgery, and believe you were not fully informed of the risks and complications, you may have a viable medical malpractice claim to pursue.**

Traditional artificial lenses usually serve to “**improve**” one’s vision. **Premium** lenses are touted by many surgeons as eliminating the need to wear eyeglasses. We have found many doctors exaggerate the benefits of utilizing “**premium**” lenses, while minimizing the risks.

Patients have even been encouraged to have “**premium**” lenses inserted that did not even have a cataract! Very real complications may occur when inserting “**premium**” lenses leaving the patient with worse vision. Many patients require the use of eyeglasses constantly despite what was told to them before surgery. They are rightfully angry. They believe their surgeon did not thoroughly and properly explain the risks associated with “**premium**” lenses. **This is known as inadequate informed consent.**

In some circumstances, the surgeon may have committed a medical error in the surgical procedure. **These errors may result in complications, which include retinal detachment, improperly positioned lens, inflammation of the cornea, droopy eyelid, or worse vision than before the surgery.** Both the lack of informed consent and surgical error may justify pursuit of a cataract surgery malpractice claim. If you have experienced either of these situations, call us at **1-800-332-1992** and we will investigate your claim.