Advantages of Phaco
- Early surgery can be done, so the patient need not wait for the cataract to mature.
- Small incision.
- No sutures
  - no irritation
  - no watering
  - no need for suture removal

It is the ophthalmic surgeon who makes the final decision on whether the patient can undergo phaco or not.

If you or anybody in your family or neighbourhood has eye problems,
Do Not Delay
See an eye specialist immediately.

Remember:
Only an ophthalmologist can provide total eye care: Medical, Surgical and Optical
It’s your sight!
Your eyes deserve the best care available!

Aravind Eye Hospitals
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Types of Cataract
There are many types of cataracts. A change in the chemical composition of the lens causes most cataracts. The following are the various types of cataracts.

Senile Cataract
This is the most common type of cataract, comprising 80 percent of the total cataracts. It occurs in patients above the age of 50.

Congenital Cataract
Cataracts in children are rare. They can be caused by infection of the mother during pregnancy, or they may be hereditary.

Traumatic Cataract
Eye injuries may cause cataracts in patients of any age.

Secondary Cataract
Eye diseases, like glaucoma, iritis, eye tumours, and diabetes may cause cataracts.

Drug-induced Cataract
Prolonged treatment with steroid drugs, either local (e.g., allergic conjunctivitis) or systemic (e.g., asthma) may lead to cataract formation.

Symptoms
- Blurring or dimness of vision.
- Feeling of a film over the eyes.
- Sensitivity to light and glare.

Treatment
Cataract cannot be cured by medicines or spectacles. Removal of the clouded lens through surgery is the only treatment.

Intraocular Lens (IOL)
An IOL is a tiny transparent convex lens, made of polymethyl methacrylate, (a harmless plastic substance) inserted in the eye during surgery. Unlike contact lenses, an IOL stays permanently in the eye and does not cause irritation.

Advantages of IOL
- Since the lens is placed inside the eye, the patient need not wear glasses for clear vision.
- Images are clear and of the same dimension without distortion.
- Full vision returns very early.
- Normal field of vision.

Types of Cataract Removal
Routine Method
A 10-mm incision is made in the eye. The cataract is removed, and the opening is closed with sutures.

Phaco or Sutureless Surgery Method
A 5-mm incision is made in the eye. The cataract is broken into small pieces by a machine with ultrasonic waves and removed with a needle. A specially prepared IOL is inserted into the eye and the wound heals without sutures.