

Light Adjustable Lens (LAL) Risk Management Guidelines

Purpose of risk management recommendations

OMIC regularly analyzes its claims experience to determine loss prevention measures that our insured ophthalmologists can take to reduce the likelihood of professional liability lawsuits. OMIC policyholders are not required to implement risk management recommendations. Rather, physicians should use their professional judgment in determining the applicability of a given recommendation to their particular patients and practice situation. These loss prevention documents may refer to clinical care guidelines such as the American Academy of Ophthalmology's *Preferred Practice Patterns*, peer-reviewed articles, or to federal or state laws and regulations. However, our risk management recommendations do not constitute the standard of care nor do they provide legal advice. Consult an attorney if legal advice is desired or needed. Information contained here is not intended to be a modification of the terms and conditions of the OMIC professional and limited office premises liability insurance policy. Please refer to the OMIC policy for these terms and conditions.

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1. Preoperative Safety Guidelines

- a. Patient selection
 - Patients must be willing to comply with the postoperative care requirements, including wearing the UV-protective glasses as instructed, keeping all postop visits according to the treatment schedule, and spending the required time at each postop visit. The process is a marathon, not a sprint.
- b. Patient education
 - The operating ophthalmologist should provide an overview of the LAL technology and describe the complete process through the final lock-in visit. If the patient cannot understand or comply with the necessary instructions, the primary caregiver or POA must attend so that they understand the importance of adhering to the postop requirements.
 - Other educational material may be helpful, such as information from the manufacturer <https://www.rxsight.com/us> that can be posted to your website.
- c. Set appropriate expectations
 - Visual acuity and refractive correction goals are not guaranteed even with LAL technology.
 - The patient may still need reading and/or distance glasses.
 - Anticipated costs are not covered by insurance.

- d. Informed consent
 - Use a [LAL-specific informed consent](#)
 - Obtain the patient's [consent to comanagement](#)
- e. Staff education and office flow
 - Educate staff regarding the LAL protocol and billing/coding. Visit aao.org/coding for more information.
 - Review office workflows and adjust as necessary due to the impact of more and longer-lasting postop visits as compared to non-LAL cataract surgery.

2. Postoperative Light Adjustments

Post-op LAL adjustments may be performed by an optometrist (OD), provided that:

- a. The OD is an employee of the insured ophthalmologist/OMIC practice.
- b. The state law where the service is rendered does not preclude optometrists from performing LAL adjustments.
- c. The OD has full and appropriate licensure for the state in which the service is rendered.
- d. The OD is fully trained by the manufacturer or via a similar training program.
- e. An MD/DO (fully trained in the procedure) is immediately available on-site or electronically to assist with LAL adjustment-related problems or questions.
- f. The patient consents in writing to the performance of post-op LAL adjustments by an OD.

Need confidential risk management assistance?

OMIC-insured ophthalmologists, optometrists, and practices are invited to contact OMIC's Risk Management Department at (800) 562-6642, option 4, or at riskmanagement@omic.com.