You may have lived your entire life with poor vision and thought that there was nothing you could do about it.

The truth is, there are now several vision correction procedures that can help remedy poor eyesight.

Whether you’re nearsighted or farsighted or if you suffer from glaucoma, cataracts, or other vision issues, you may be a candidate for a corrective vision procedure.

We perform many of these procedures right here at Williamson Eye Institute in Lafayette, Indiana, and we assembled this guide to help those considering vision surgery better understand their options.
LASIK is a popular procedure that involves reshaping or altering layers of the cornea with a laser. Most people’s pain level for LASIK is described as mild discomfort which dissipates a day or two after the procedure.

LASIK is one of the most common procedures performed at Williamson Eye Institute. The procedure provides individual treatment by gathering measurements that map out thousands of data points specific to your eye. This data is then applied to the excimer laser, an ultraviolet laser, as it reshapes the cornea to your unique measurements.

Results have shown that customizing the procedure can improve night vision and produce results that are even better than those that can be achieved with glasses or contact lenses.
Photorefractive Keratectomy (PRK)

PRK uses a laser to sculpt the surface of the cornea. This contrasts with LASIK, which sculpts tissue deeper within the cornea, under a corneal flap.

PRK is useful for treating low to moderate levels of myopia or hyperopia with and without astigmatism. It is often the laser vision correction procedure of choice for people with thinner corneas and for individuals who may have certain corneal dystrophies, certain corneal scars, or a condition called “recurrent corneal erosion.”

Conductive Keratoplasty (CK)

CK can change how the eye focuses light by reshaping the surface of your eye (cornea). When the shape is changed, light can be refocused on the correct part of your eye (retina).

To produce this reshaping, NearVision CK uses the controlled release of radio waves to heat and shrink corneal tissue. This steepens the cornea and allows light to properly focus on the retina again.
The ICL corrective surgery involves an intraocular lens (IOL) that is inserted into the eye to work with the natural eye lens.

Unlike corneal refractive surgery, such as LASIK and PRK, the Visian ICL does not alter the structure of the eye, or involve tissue removal. Instead, the lens is inserted inside of the eye and works with the eye’s natural optical system to enhance its performance.

The Visian ICL requires a small opening during a short surgical procedure with an almost immediate improvement in visual acuity.

Through the use of medicated eye drops, most patients only feel a slight pressure on their eye during the procedure and don’t feel pain at all.
Selective Laser Trabeculoplasty

If your poor vision is a result of glaucoma, Selective Laser Trabeculoplasty (SLT) might be the right procedure. In some cases, eye drops are not the preferred treatment option for glaucoma. In these cases, the next option is laser therapy.

In SLT, laser treatment is applied to the drain of your eye in order to open it up and let fluid out, lowering the eye pressure and saving your sight. SLT treatment takes only a few minutes, is performed in the office, is safe, and effectively lowers eye pressure in most patients.

The treatment is approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for treating glaucoma and is covered by essentially all insurance plans.

Trabeculectomy

Another option for glaucoma sufferers is trabeculectomy. If glaucoma cannot be controlled by drops or laser surgery, incisional surgery may be required.

A trabeculectomy can be performed to create an alternate pathway for aqueous fluid to exit the eye, thereby improving vision.
It is not uncommon to have reservations about having corrective vision surgery. Patients are often weary of these kinds of procedures because there is a stigma that the procedures won't work. However, the advancements in modern medicine have made these procedures more accurate than ever. Today, you have the power to do something about your vision with the help of Williamson Eye Institute.

Tired of living with poor vision? Contact Williamson Eye Institute to set up a free vision correction consultation to determine which procedure is right for you. We accept all major insurance, flex spending and provide financing options.