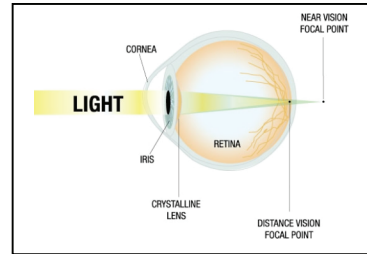


## Fact Sheet: Presbyopia

### Presbyopia

- Presbyopia is a term used to describe the loss of near or reading vision due to changing.
- Presbyopia affects nearly every adult over the age of 50.<sup>1</sup>
- Presbyopia is caused in part by a gradual hardening of the natural crystalline lens of the eye. As the lens gets harder and less flexible, the eye's ability to switch from seeing objects at a distance (driving) to seeing objects that are near (reading) is compromised. (See image at right.)



- The most commonly prescribed treatments for the loss of near or reading vision from presbyopia are reading glasses or bifocals.
- Today, depending upon the lifestyle and eye health needs of an individual, a person with cataracts and presbyopia can be treated with a new generation of presbyopia-correcting intraocular lens implants.
- On May 3, 2005, CMS (Centers For Medicare and Medicaid Services) published a ruling that made presbyopia-correcting intraocular lens technology accessible to a broad range of people.

1. Kleinstein, RN. Epidemiology of presbyopia. In: Stark L, Obrecht G, eds.

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