TAKE $400* OFF LASIK

GO SEE
Change your life through LASIK.

TLC Laser Eye Centers

CLICK HERE

ICL: Implantable Collamer Lenses Explained

January 14, 2014

Tweet 0 Share 0 Google + 0 Email 0

Implantable collamer lenses (ICLs) are perhaps best explained by their better-known alias: implantable contact lenses. This is because ICLs are surgically embedded films of collagen placed beneath the iris, the colored part of your eye. You could think of ICLs, as many do, as implanted contacts.

Once you have been determined to be a candidate, ICL surgery involves a two-step process. First, you visit your doctor, who uses a laser to create one or two small openings in the colored part of your eye to allow fluid to circulate after the

REQUEST A TLC LASIK INFO KIT

To learn more about LASIK and TLC Laser Eye Centers, complete the form to receive an info kit.

first name

last name

email

phone

zip / postal code

select location

Submit

By entering my email address, I consent to receive email information, offers and promotions from TLC. I understand I can withdraw my consent at any time.

open in browser PRO version Are you a developer? Try out the HTML to PDF API pdfcrowd.com

ICL is placed. About two weeks later, you go back to have the ICL implanted.

The implantation involves a small incision and the insertion of a lens specially chosen for your prescription, which unfolds as your doctor inserts it into your eye. The doctor tucks the four corners of the ICL behind your iris, making the lens invisible.

Why get an ICL?

ICLs are attractive options for people who aren't good LASIK candidates. For instance, if you learn at a LASIK consultation that your corneas are too thin or your prescription too strong for laser vision correction, your physician might suggest having an ICL procedure. Not every surgeon is experienced with ICLs, though, so if your physician does not recommend an ICL, you might still be a good candidate but should find a second opinion.

Some people like ICLs because they offer a permanent solution to vision correction, and they can be adjusted or removed if necessary.

ICL vs. LASIK

ICLs and LASIK have many points in common. Both eye surgeries begin with anesthetic eye drops and sometimes a mild sedative. Both correct nearsightedness, though LASIK also corrects astigmatism and farsightedness. The surgeries share a relatively short recovery period of several days, and the overwhelming majority of patients who have either procedure report satisfaction with their results.

If you have been told you are not a LASIK candidate because of a high refractive error or thin cornea, you can learn if you're an ICL candidate by asking your eye doctor or by having a consultation. You'll probably have to ask specifically about ICLs, as a consultation provider might offer other options before ICLs. Listen to each option the doctor presents and select the one with which you feel most comfortable.

FIND A LASIK PROVIDER NEAR YOU

START HERE: enter zip / postal code SEND ►

FIND A LASIK PROVIDER NEAR YOU

Enter your Zip / Postal Code to begin your search.

enter your zip / postal code

Search

POPULAR LATEST

LASIK Eye Surgery Cost (the Elephant in the Eye Exam Room)
The cost of LASIK in North America varies drastically, from less th...

How Much Is LASIK?
A common question about laser eye surgery is simply, "How much is...

LASIK vs. PRK: What is the Difference?
Photo refractive keratectomy (PRK) is a type of laser eye surgery d...

When is Someone Too Young or Too Old to Have LASIK?
Age marks plenty of milestones: driving, voting, working and retiri...

How Much Is LASIK With Insurance?
One of the first questions many ask while considering LASIK is "H...

VIDEOS

Learn About LASIK

LASIK for Astigmatism

open in browser PRO version Are you a developer? Try out the HTML to PDF API pdfcrowd.com

How To Choose A LASIK Provider

The Difference Between LASIK and PRK

LASIK Recovery

PRK And Recovery

View all videos

This website is sponsored by Health Care Marketing Services, LLC, a marketing company under the common ownership of The LASIK Vision Institute, LLC and TLC Vision Centers. This disclosure is in accordance with the Federal Trade Commission's 16 CFR, Part 255.

open in browser PRO version Are you a developer? Try out the HTML to PDF API pdfcrowd.com