

ICL's

WHAT IS AN ICL?

An ICL is a soft, very thin intraocular lens that is inserted between the Iris and the patient's own lens. Unlike a refractive lensectomy or a refractive lens exchange where the natural lens is replaced, this adds a lens without removal of the natural lens.

WHO IS A CANDIDATE?

The current FDA approval for this procedure is for myopes (nearsightedness) between -3.00D to -20.00D. Candidates are patients who have a cornea that is too thin for Lasik to be performed safely, or if the patient is not a candidate for Lasik for other reasons such as an abnormal topography or a prescription that is too high. The advantage of the ICL over a refractive lensectomy is that in a non-presbyopic patient, the patient retains their accommodation.

HOW IS THIS SURGERY PERFORMED?

Topical anesthesia is used. The incision is 2.5 mm long in clear cornea. The surgery takes less than 10 minutes. If the surgery is combined with Lasik to correct astigmatism, a flap is made on the same day as the ICL surgery. Three months later any residual correction is taken care of, including astigmatism.

WHAT TO EXPECT AS A PATIENT

Less discomfort than Lasik. Vision that improves almost immediately after surgery. Final stabilization occurs after three months, when Lasik can be performed.