Protocol for Patients Who Wear Hard Contact Lenses and Gas Permeable Lenses

Because the use of contact lenses changes the shape of the cornea, patients seeking LASIK need to spend time out of lenses before the extensive preoperative exam and before surgery.

Patients who wear hard contact lenses and gas permeable lenses need to extend the amount of time spent out of lenses prior to the Pre-operative exam. Clear Choice patients need to spend a **minimum of 8 weeks** out of hard and gas permeable lenses.

At Clear Choice Custom LASIK Center, we like to be sure that your corneas have returned to their natural shape before proceeding with surgery. The following is the protocol that will be followed.

1.) Corneal Topography (corneal mapping done at screening.
2.) Corneal Topography done when patient has been out of lenses for approximately **4 weeks**.
3.) Corneal Topography and full Pre-operative Exam done when patient is out of lenses for full **8 weeks or more**. The corneal topography will be the first step of the exam. The doctor will review the results, and determine if the patient is able to proceed with the full exam. **Patients may have to go longer than 8 weeks if the cornea has not returned to its natural shape.**

Patients who do not wear glasses in the 8-week time period can wear soft contact lenses. In this case, the patient needs to be out of the soft contact lenses **72 hours** before the 8- week appointment and **1 full week (7 days)** before the surgery. If a patient is scheduled for Custom they will need to be out of soft contact lenses for 2 weeks. They do not have to be left out for interim appointments.

***** Doctors may change protocol for an individual according to medical necessity*****