

Who is a Good Candidate for EVO ICL?



Understanding whether you're a good candidate for EVO ICL involves evaluating several interconnected factors that determine both the safety and effectiveness of the procedure for your specific eyes. While EVO ICL has helped thousands of people achieve freedom from glasses and contacts, it's not the right choice for everyone.

The best candidates share certain characteristics related to their prescription, eye anatomy, age, and overall eye health. Learning what makes someone an ideal EVO ICL candidate will help you determine whether this procedure deserves serious consideration or whether alternative vision correction options might better serve your needs.

Moderate to Severe Nearsightedness

The ideal EVO ICL candidate has moderate to severe myopia, typically ranging from about -3 to -20 diopters of nearsightedness. This range represents the sweet spot where EVO ICL excels, particularly for prescriptions that exceed the safe treatment limits of LASIK.

If you've worn thick glasses since childhood or struggle with high-prescription contact lenses that limit your options and cost considerably more than standard lenses, you likely fall into this category. People with severe myopia often feel trapped by their dependence on corrective eyewear, unable to see clearly even at arm's length without glasses or contacts.

The technology can also correct astigmatism in combination with nearsightedness, up to about 4 diopters of astigmatic error. This makes it suitable for patients who need both spherical and cylindrical correction, addressing the most common combinations of refractive error.

If your prescription is on the milder end of the spectrum, under -3 diopters, you might be better served by laser procedures like LASIK or SMILE that excel at treating lower levels of myopia without requiring an implanted lens.

Stable Vision Prescription

Good EVO ICL candidates have had a stable eyeglass or contact lens prescription for at least one to two years before the procedure. Stability means your prescription hasn't changed by more than 0.5 diopters during that period, indicating that your eyes have stopped changing and any correction achieved will be long-lasting.

Young adults in their late teens and early twenties may still be experiencing prescription changes as their eyes finish maturing, making them poor candidates until their vision stabilizes. Similarly, certain medical conditions, hormonal changes from pregnancy, or medications can cause temporary prescription fluctuations that should settle before considering surgery.

Verifying prescription stability usually involves reviewing your eye exam records from the past few years to confirm consistency. If your prescription has been changing, waiting until it stabilizes ensures that the correction provided by EVO ICL will continue to meet your needs for years to come.

Age Between 21 and 45 Years Old

While EVO ICL can technically be performed on patients outside this age range, the ideal candidate is typically between 21 and 45 years old. The minimum age of 21 ensures that your eyes have finished developing and that your prescription has reached stability.

Younger patients whose eyes are still growing may experience prescription changes after surgery, potentially diminishing the procedure's effectiveness. The upper age consideration relates to the natural aging of the eye's crystalline lens and the onset of presbyopia, the age-related loss of near focusing ability that typically begins in the early to mid-forties.

While EVO ICL can still benefit patients in their forties and fifties, younger candidates get more years of spectacle-free vision before age-related changes might require reading glasses or other vision aids. Patients over 45 should have realistic expectations that while EVO ICL will correct their distance vision, it won't prevent the natural loss of near vision that accompanies aging.

Adequate Anterior Chamber Depth

One of the most important anatomical requirements for EVO ICL candidacy is adequate depth in the anterior chamber, the fluid-filled space between your cornea and iris. The EVO ICL sits in the posterior chamber, just behind the iris, and there needs to be enough room for the lens to position correctly without touching other structures.

If your anterior chamber is too shallow, there may not be adequate space for the ICL, which could lead to complications like increased eye pressure or contact between the ICL and your natural lens. Modern diagnostic imaging technology, particularly anterior segment optical coherence tomography, allows surgeons to measure your anterior chamber depth precisely before surgery.

These measurements help determine not only whether you're a candidate but also what size ICL will fit your eye best. The measurement process is completely non-invasive and painless, typically performed as part of your comprehensive pre-surgical evaluation.

Healthy Eyes Free from Disease

Good EVO ICL candidates have eyes that are generally healthy, without active disease or significant structural abnormalities. Conditions like uncontrolled glaucoma, advanced cataracts, severe macular degeneration, or active uveitis typically disqualify patients from EVO ICL surgery.

These conditions either make surgery unsafe or are likely to progress regardless of the vision correction achieved, potentially limiting the benefit of the procedure. Mild cataracts that aren't yet significantly affecting your vision may not automatically disqualify you, but they require careful evaluation to ensure they won't progress rapidly after EVO ICL placement.

Well-controlled ocular hypertension or early-stage glaucoma might still be compatible with EVO ICL in some cases, depending on the specifics of your condition and your eye doctor's assessment of the risks and benefits. Comprehensive dilated eye examinations allow your surgeon to evaluate the health of all structures in your eye and determine whether any existing conditions would interfere with safe EVO ICL placement or long-term success.

Corneas Too Thin for LASIK

Many excellent EVO ICL candidates arrive at the procedure after being told they're not suitable for LASIK due to insufficient corneal thickness. LASIK requires removing tissue from the cornea, and there's a minimum thickness that must remain after surgery to maintain structural integrity.

If your corneas are naturally thin or if your high prescription would require removing too much tissue, LASIK becomes unsafe. EVO ICL doesn't remove or reshape any corneal tissue, making corneal thickness essentially irrelevant to candidacy.

This opens the door to vision correction for many people who thought they were stuck with glasses and contacts for life. Even if your corneas are thick enough for LASIK, you might still prefer EVO ICL if you value the corneal preservation and reversibility that the lens-based approach offers.

Chronic Dry Eye or Contact Lens Intolerance

Patients who struggle with dry eye symptoms or who can no longer tolerate contact lenses due to irritation often make excellent EVO ICL candidates. LASIK can worsen dry eye by temporarily disrupting the corneal nerves that help regulate tear production, making it a poor choice for people who already have dryness issues.

EVO ICL doesn't affect the corneal surface or tear production mechanisms, so it won't cause or exacerbate dry eye symptoms. Many patients who choose EVO ICL specifically to escape the discomfort of dry eyes find that their eyes feel significantly better after surgery compared to their baseline with contact lenses.

If you've given up on contact lenses because your eyes became too dry, irritated, or sensitive, or if you can only wear contacts for limited hours before experiencing discomfort, EVO ICL can provide the convenience of contact lens-like vision without any of the surface interaction that causes problems.

Realistic Expectations and Personal Motivation

The best EVO ICL candidates approach the procedure with realistic expectations about what it can and cannot achieve. While EVO ICL provides excellent vision correction for the vast majority of patients, it's not guaranteed to give you better than perfect vision or solve every visual complaint you've ever had.

Understanding that the goal is to provide clear, functional vision that eliminates or dramatically reduces your dependence on glasses and contacts leads to higher satisfaction with results. Good candidates are also making the decision for themselves, motivated by their own desire for visual freedom rather than pressure from others.

Taking time to research the procedure, ask questions during your consultation, and understand both the benefits and potential limitations demonstrates the thoughtful approach that characterizes successful EVO ICL patients.

Why Modern Vision Centers for Candidacy Evaluation

Determining whether you're a good candidate for EVO ICL requires comprehensive evaluation by an experienced vision correction specialist using advanced diagnostic technology. Modern Vision Centers in West Des Moines provides thorough candidacy assessments that go far beyond checking basic prescription requirements.

Dr. Drew Dickson and his team measure your corneal thickness, map your corneal topography, assess your anterior chamber depth, evaluate your overall eye health, and discuss your vision goals and lifestyle needs. Because Modern Vision Centers offers all seven modern vision correction options, you can trust that your candidacy evaluation is objective and focused on finding the best procedure for your unique eyes.

This comprehensive approach ensures that if EVO ICL isn't ideal for you, you'll learn about alternative procedures that might serve you better.

Discover Your Candidacy Today

If you recognize yourself in the profile of a good EVO ICL candidate, the next step is scheduling a consultation to confirm your eligibility and learn exactly what the procedure could do for your vision. Even if you're uncertain

whether you meet all the criteria, a comprehensive evaluation can answer your questions and provide clarity about your options.

Modern Vision Centers has helped thousands of people throughout the Des Moines area determine their candidacy for EVO ICL and other vision correction procedures, guiding each patient toward the solution that best fits their individual needs. Contact Modern Vision Centers today to schedule your consultation and take the first step toward discovering whether EVO ICL can help you achieve the clear, natural vision you've been hoping for.

Company Description

Modern Vision Centers offers a range of advanced laser and lens vision correction procedures tailored to your unique needs and lifestyle.

Contact Details

Modern Vision Centers

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(515) 674-2020

Website: <https://www.mvcvision.com/evo-ICL/>

Google Site: <https://sites.google.com/view/mvcvision/evo-ICL-des-moines>

Google Folder: <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1LnhrA5M7WeC7zBe88ii7nuWRrytDtuS2?usp=sharing>

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