



Near Vision CK Frequently Asked Questions

Our goal in offering CK is to restore functional near vision for those who are over 40.

Will I ever need glasses or contacts again?

The vast majority of patients do not need corrective lenses of any kind after the CK procedure. However, depending on your age and the type of refractive disorder you have, you may need additional vision correction (surgery, reading glasses, or bifocals) at some point. This is because your eyes continue to change as you age.

Is CK reversible?

As with most vision correction procedures, CK is not reversible. Once the procedure has been performed, it is not possible to "remove" the effects of the procedure. This is an important factor that anyone thinking about surgery should carefully consider. To make sure CK is right for you, make sure you discuss your vision needs with your doctor.

Will my vision improve immediately after surgery?

Patients usually notice an immediate improvement in their vision after the CK procedure. However, it usually takes several weeks for the eyes to reach the final level of correction.

What are the risks and side effects of CK?

Because CK is minimally invasive and very controlled, the procedure has very few surgical complications. During the first 24 to 48 hours after surgery, you may experience tearing and some discomfort, including a foreign-object sensation in the eyes. You may also experience a slight overcorrection of your vision, allowing you to see better up close, though your distance vision may be blurry. This will stabilize during the following weeks.

How soon will I be able to return to work?

With CK, the majority of patients are able to return to work and other normal activities 1-3 days after their procedure. Although recovery is fairly quick, it is advisable to be careful with your eyes and avoid any strain. Those whose jobs demand intense clarity of vision (such as dentistry, surgery, or computer work) may find their work more difficult to perform for several days after having the procedure.

Are both eyes corrected on the same day?

For patients who require treatment in both eyes, CK is typically performed on both eyes on the same day- one eye immediately after the other. Most patients are comfortable having both eyes corrected on the same day because CK is minimally invasive and requires only a few minutes to perform.

Why doesn't CK use a laser?

Lasers reshape the cornea by vaporizing (removing) tissue. CK reshapes the cornea using an entirely different method: the application of low-level, radiofrequency (RF) energy to specific spots around the cornea. This causes the tissue of the cornea (collagen) to shrink in a very controlled way, creating a constrictive "band" that give the cornea a steeper shape.

Where is the procedure done?

Our office at 1960 Randolph Road in Charlotte is equipped to perform CK.

What will I feel during the procedure?

CK is considered painless. You will be aware of a lid support, which helps to hold your eye open. The most common sensation that patients experience is a feeling of pressure on the eye. After surgery, there may be some mild discomfort. Many patients complain of a foreign-object sensation or a slight "scratchiness" in the eye. This usually subsides within 24 hours of the procedures.

Are there restrictions after having CK?

As with any other types of vision procedure, certain precautions should be taken after CK. You should avoid getting contaminated water in your eyes for at least one week. This includes water from swimming pools, spas, lakes, and the ocean. When showering or taking baths, you should keep your eyes closed to avoid getting soap and dirty water in them. When exercising, sweat should be kept out of the eyes for at least a week after surgery. Also, you should avoid rubbing your eyes vigorously for two weeks following the procedure. Eye makeup should not be used for one week after surgery.

Will I have to wear patches over my eyes after the procedure?

You will not have to wear patches or bandages. However, your eyes may be scratchy and light sensitive for the first 24-48 hours. Wearing good sunglasses and keeping your eyes closed as much as possible ease these symptoms.

Will my health insurance cover the cost of the procedure?

Because CK is elective surgery, most health insurance plans do not cover it. Financing options are available to make CK more affordable.

How can I get more information about CK?

Please call our Refractive Department (704-716-2020 ext. 109) or fill out our Refractive consultation form and our Refractive Coordinator will contact you.