

HYALURONATE-GEL TECHNOLOGY: A Difference in Fitting



Congratulations – you are fitting the ONLY Hyaluronate-Gel contact lens in the United States – patented by Safigel[™] and no other manufacturer. We'd like to make you aware of some differences in fitting the Safigel[™] lens.

To Begin

A well-fitting lens will exhibit good centration, total corneal coverage, and 0.02 to 0.05 mm of movement. Optimal fit may be achieved with suggested K readings of 42–48 diopters.

How Sodium Hyaluronate (HA) Is Released from Safigel™ Lenses

- 1. Before insertion, HA is in a coiled form within the lens matrix.
- 2. Upon insertion, HA begins to change its form with body temperature and starts to become more fluid.
- 3. With blinking, HA becomes liquid, spreading over and lubricating the contact lens as HA is released from the lens matrix.
- **4.** Between blinks, released HA becomes more viscous, acting as a protective shield against dryness on BOTH sides of the contact lens.

Because of HA's Special Properties

- 1. The Safigel™ lens must be allowed to "settle" for a few minutes before evaluating a patient's comfort and vision. In other words, both body temperature and blinking have to be in operation so that HA is released from the lens matrix.
- 2. A lens might be inverted when it is taken out of its packaging. Safigel™ lenses cannot have an "inversion (inside-out) indicator" because of HA's strongly hydrophilic properties. Check carefully in the office that the lens has a curved shape like a bowl with rounded edges before inserting it in a patient's eye. But if, after insertion, the patient complains of discomfort OR does not have excellent visual acuity with their proper prescription, take the lens out again and check for inversion.



CORRECT

3. Even though the lens might be thoroughly comfortable with correct visual acuity in the office after insertion, it may be a different story when a patient gets home. If the patient doesn't understand that the lens might be inverted when it comes out of the packaging, they may not look closely as they insert the lens and complain of a "blurry" lens from their Sample Strip or 90-Pack. Explain the inverted lens possibility to the patient and HA's special properties.