

Basic Fitting Information

FLEXLENS[®] PIGGYBACK

*If fitting a patient in the Definitive 74%, adjust the Base Curve 0.3mm steeper or the Diameter 0.3mm larger.

SOFT LENS BASE CURVE

The Piggyback Lens fitting criteria is identical to any soft lens, with movement and centration the primary factors. The initial lens selection should be 1.0mm flatter than the patient's flattest keratometric value (in mm). There should be lens centration with 1.0 to 1.5mm of limbal draping and lens movement should be minimal, 0.25 to 0.50mm in primary position with normal blink.

EXAMPLE:

"K's" 52.00D @ 180 / 57.00D @ 090

Flat "K" 52.00D = 6.49mm

Diagnostic lens 7.5mm Base Curve

Recommended lens: 7.5mm Base Curve, 14.5mm Diameter, Plano Power, 10.2mm Anterior Cut-out Diameter.

Diagnostic fitting of the soft lens is enhanced by inserting a GP lens that is 1.0mm smaller than the recessed cut-out diameter. GP Insert Lens: Take the keratometric reading for the insert lens over the piggyback carrier. For example, if the anterior cut-out is 10.2mm, the largest GP lens diameter would be 9.2mm. This will mimic the final weight and lid to lens interaction, allowing for a better evaluation.

NOTE: The soft lens skirt should be inserted first, followed by the GP lens being inserted on top of the soft lens.

Lens Evaluation

When evaluating the fit of the Piggyback lens, the soft lens should exhibit:

- Lens centration with 1.0 to 1.5mm of limbal draping

Push Up Test

If the soft lens decenters up, down, left or right, the base curve is most likely too flat and the next steeper base curve should be evaluated. If the soft lens centers well, a simple “push-up” test will verify if the base curve is appropriate for the patient. Place your index finger on the patient’s lower lid margin and manually push the lower lens edge up to the lower limbus. Release your finger pressure from the lower lid and evaluate the lens movement. If the decentered lens slowly drops into a centered position, the lens to cornea relationship is appropriate. If the lens remains in a superior decentered position, or if edge stand off is noted as the lens reaches the lower limbus, the base curve relationship is too flat. In this situation the next steeper base curve/diameter should be evaluated. A steep fitting lens will exhibit resistance to the manual manipulation of the lens with the lower lid. In this situation, the next flatter base curve can be evaluated.

Gas Permeable Insert

Once the appropriate soft lens has been designed, the GP lens is removed from the central cut-out with a standard GP suction device. Keratometry is performed over the central depression of the soft contact lens and a standard GP lens is designed as if it were being fit onto the cornea. A base curve is selected on “K” or .10mm steeper than the flat “K”. The GP lens diameter should be selected at least 1.0mm smaller than the anterior cut-out boundaries to facilitate lens movement and tear exchange.

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