Vision Expos West 2025 & Vision Expos East 2026
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Advanced Optics - When Patients are 20/20 and Still Unhappy

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1 Hour CE
OD Education
Categories: Contact Lenses

Abstract:
The patient reads 20/20, you ask, “How's the vision?” expecting the patient to be elated, only to have the patient say, “The vision is still blurry.” How can that be?? What is causing this lack of vision? How can we improve their 20/20 and get rid of symptoms such as glare, starbursts, haloo?. How can you improve the quality of vision for scleral lens-wearing patients? Can we do even better? This course will teach you everything you need to know about wavefront aberrometry, wavefront-guided scleral lenses, and how this technology is used to improve the vision of patients wearing scleral lenses.

Learning Objectives:
1. Understand higher-order aberrations (HOA)
2. Understand which symptoms patients have that are due to HOAs
3. Learn the current methods to correct HOAs
4. Learn how HOA affects vision in scleral lenses
5. Learn misconceptions of HOA and scleral lenses

Outline:
1. Scleral lens use (1 min)
    a. SCOPE Study: 74% used for irregular cornea
2. Irregular cornea diseases affecting visual quality (2 mins)
    a. Keratoconus (number 1 indication for scleral lenses)
    b. Pellucid marginal degeneration
    c. Iatrogenic ectasia

    d. Post keratoplasty
    e. Cornea scars
3. Evaluation of visual quality (12 mins)
    a. Concept of visual quantity vs visual quality
        i. Aberration vs scatter
    b. Scatter
        i. Remove opacity to clear media
            1. Cornea scar
            2. Cataract
            3. Fluid reservoir fogging
    c. Diagnostics
        i. Optical scatter
            1. How it works: spot quality
        ii. Densitometry
            1. How it works: media clarity
    d. Aberrations
        i. Aberration = optical
            1. Improve focus
        ii. Low order aberrations
            1. Piston, tilt, defocus, astigmatism
        iii. High order aberrations
            1. Coma, trefoil, spherical aberration
        iv. Dependant factors
            1. Applegate et al
                a. Pupil size
                b. Age
    e. Diagnostics
        i. Auto refraction
            1. Low order aberrations only
        ii. Wavefront aberrometry
            1. All aberrations
                a. How it works: spot diagram, spacing and defocus
                b. Optical simulations
                    i. Model eye
                    ii. Normal eye
                    iii. Keratoconus
                    iv. Glasses over keratoconus
                    v. Scleral lens over keratoconus
            2. Not specific to any part of the eye
                a. Measurement of the fully optical system of the eye
    f. Does topography = aberrometry?
        i. NO
            1. Topography can be used to matically calculate aberrations of the cornea based on its shape but this is not true optical aberration

    ii. If topography is added to aberrometry the source of aberrations can be located
        1. Topography + aberrometry = cornea surface can be isolated
        2. Tomography + aberrometry = total cornea can be isolated
        3. Extended depth tomography + aberrometry = total cornea and total lens can be isolated

4. Scleral lens optics (35 mins)
    a. Traditional optics
        i. Sphere
        ii. Cylinder
    b. Poor visual quality with scleral lenses?
        i. Lens decentration
        ii. Posterior corneal contribution
    c. Advanced optics
        i. Aspheric optics
            1. Spherical aberration only
                a. Not customized
                    i. Optimized
        ii. Wavefront guided optics
            1. Correct higher order aberration
                a. All aberrations
                    i. Fully customized to the individual
            2. How do they work?
                a. Destructive interference
                    i. Similar concept to noise cancelling headphone but with light instead of sound
            3. Process
                a. Capture aberration profile
                    i. Wavefront aberrometry over scleral lens
                b. Mirror aberration profile
                    i. Destructive interference
                c. Manufacturer mirrored profile onto the scleral lens
                    i. Aberrations cancel out = improved visual quality
            4. Literature review
                a. 44 to 64% improvement in HORMS
                    i. 1-2 line VA improvement
                b. Marsack et al
                c. Johns et al
                d. Magnete patent
                e. Gelles et al
                    i. Case study
                    ii. Retrospective
                    iii. Prospective
                    iv. Neural adaptation

d. Presbyopia correction
    i. Over spectacles
    ii. Blended vision (monovision)
        1. Neural adaptation
    iii. Multifocal
        1. Induce aberration for increased depth of focus
            a. Optics placed in the center
            b. Lens must be centered
                i. Lens centered = spherical aberration = good outcomes
                ii. Lens decentration = induced coma = poor outcomes
        2. Decentered multifocal optics
            a. Optics moved on the lens to align with line of sight
        3. Wavefront guided
            a. Custom placement, pupil size optimization
        4. Shortcomings
            a. Static solutions to dynamic problems
                i. Aberration induction not the same as accommodation

5. Cases to demonstrate the identification of HOAs and the improvement in visual quality with proper treatment