



Location

Abbotsford and
Chilliwack, BC



Device

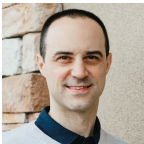
California



Doctors in Practice

Four

Seeing the whole picture: The impact of ultra-widefield retinal imaging in optometry



Dr. Jonathan Laudadio, OD
Discover Eyecare

In the world of optometry, advancements in imaging technology are revolutionizing how eye care professionals diagnose and manage retinal diseases. One such groundbreaking innovation is the introduction of ultra-widefield (UWF™) retinal imaging devices from Optos, which provide a single-capture 200° retinal image.

Dr. Jon Laudadio, an optometrist in British Columbia, Canada, has two practice locations – one with an Optos UWF device and one with a traditional wide field camera. Dr. Laudadio has experienced significant differences and advantages with **optomap**® UWF imaging over traditional wide field imaging.

The Confidence Boost In Diagnostics

Dr. Laudadio highlights that one of the main advantages with **optomap** UWF imaging is the heightened confidence it brings to his practice. Traditional wide field imaging often leaves room for uncertainty, necessitating further examinations to ensure that no pathology is missed. With **optomap**, however, he can capture a comprehensive view of the retina in a single capture, significantly reducing the chances of missing critical details.

“I have a lot more confidence in the ultra wide field imaging,” Dr. Laudadio explains. “With the Optos UWF, I know that I’ve managed to see over 80% of the whole retina. I’ll still perform a full examination, of course, but it gives me a pretty good idea of what’s going on right from the start.”

Real-World Examples of UWF's Superiority

Dr. Laudadio recalls several instances where **optomap** imaging proved invaluable. One notable case involved an older patient experiencing lightning flashes and increased floaters. Despite a thorough examination and multiple images with a wide field camera, Dr. Laudadio couldn't pinpoint the problem. It wasn't until he took an **optomap** that the problem was detected.

"For two weeks, we tried to figure out what was going on," he recalls. "I could visually see something was off, but I couldn't image it with my wide field machine. I took so many pictures in all kinds of directions, but I just could not see the problem on the image. On a hunch, I had him come into my other office where I have my Optos *California*. It took just one image, and there it was — a tear in the retina. It's cases like these that make me wish I had UWF imaging from the start."

Efficiency and Patient Comfort

The efficiency of UWF imaging is another significant benefit, impacting both clinic operations and patient experience. Dr. Laudadio notes that taking multiple images with a wide field camera can be time-consuming and uncomfortable for patients. The bright flash of the camera, repeated multiple times, often causes discomfort and requires frequent pauses.

"With UWF imaging, it's one image per eye, making the process much quicker and more pleasant for the patient," Dr. Laudadio observes. "Patients often complain about the brightness of the flash with the wide field camera, and they have to sit through four of these flashes, but I never get such complaints with the Optos... and it's only one image."

Improved Workflow and Staff Satisfaction

The streamlined process with **optomap** imaging not only benefits patients but also improves clinic workflow and staff satisfaction. Taking fewer images means less time spent on each patient, which can lead to a more efficient practice overall.

"The staff definitely find it more irritating to take multiple images," Dr. Laudadio says. "It's not just that the patient dislikes it, but there's always a waiting game. As soon as you take a picture with a bright flash, the patient's pupil goes small. So when you go to take your secondary wide field image, it's a bit tougher because their pupils are so much smaller. When you just have one image on one side and one image on the other with UWF, it's so much easier for both the staff and the patient."

Patient Education and Engagement

Another notable advantage of Optos technology is its advanced software, *OptosAdvance™*, which includes a 3D model of the retina. This feature greatly enhances patient education and engagement, helping them understand their condition better.

"The software from Optos has a lot of fantastic educational tools," Dr. Laudadio states. "For example, I can put the image of a patient's retina into a 3D eyeball that I can rotate and spin around. I would say every single time I do that, probably 100 out of 100 times, everybody goes, 'Wow! That's amazing!' Not only does it look cool, it makes explaining their condition much easier and more effective."

Conclusion: Embracing the Future of Optometry

For Dr. Laudadio, the addition of **optomap** has been a game-changer. It has improved diagnostic confidence, enhanced clinic efficiency, and provided a better experience for both patients and staff.

"My confidence in finding problems is significantly better with the Optos," Dr. Laudadio concludes. "If you come in for an exam, wouldn't you want me to have the tools that will make sure I can see as much as possible? To me, that's the obvious choice."

Dr. Laudadio's experience with UWF imaging highlights the transformative potential of this technology in optometry. As more practitioners adopt such advanced tools, the standard of eye care will continue to rise, benefiting patients worldwide.



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