

Best practice: Dealing with COVID-19 in an eye clinic

According to WHO the aim is to stop transmission and prevent the spread of COVID-19. Therefore the standard recommendation is to wash hands regularly, to cover mouth and nose when coughing and sneezing and to avoid close contact with anyone showing symptoms of respiratory illness such as coughing and sneezing. However, for the time being any patient can be an asymptomatic carrier of COVID-19. And according to David Silbert, MD and President of the Pennsylvania Academy of Ophthalmology: "A screaming child after dilation is a real risk to staff".



In order to protect his staff Dr. Silbert has implemented a COVID-19 protocol. He separates initial visits of new patients from their dilation visit. Much of the screening for the visit is done by staff on their telemedicine platform prior to the patient's arrival at the office. The initial visit includes an un-dilated Plusoptix refraction, a cover- and an acuity-test. Patients may be offered a non-mydratic fundus photo which is typically self-pay. In a previous study Dr. Silbert found that yield of a cycloplegic exam is extremely low if patient has a normal refraction, no strabismus and good acuity (see: "Plusoptix photoscreening may replace cycloplegic refraction in select pediatric ophthalmology patients" in J AAPOS, 2013; 17(2):163-5; <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/23522941>). If there is evidence of refractive error, amblyopia or other pathology noted, a dilated fundus exam is scheduled at a later date with parents being asked to dilate the child one hour and one half hour before the visit with cyclopentolate 1%. Dr. Silbert offers his consultation to pediatricians and fellow ophthalmologists.



Did you know?
Plusoptix measures through sneeze guards



Eradicating Amblyopia in Alaska:
Robert Arnold, MD reinvented the drive-in

Cleaning and disinfecting a Plusoptix device

Use a slightly damp microfiber cloth to clean any Plusoptix device. For disinfecting the following products are approved by Plusoptix, but please observe manufacturer guidelines:

- X Bacillol 30 Tissues
- X Clorox Healthcare Bleach Wipes
- X Teccare Control Tissues

School Screening Programs

While schools are not in session, it is easy to take proper care and maintenance of your Plusoptix. If devices are to remain inactive for a period of time, charge the batteries and keep them inside the device. Charge batteries again once school is back in session. Use this time to make sure you have installed the most up-to-date software. Call Plusoptix if you need assistance 1-800-488-6436.