

# Stick the Landing: The Importance of Scleral Lens Alignment

Dr. Karen Lee

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#### Speaker Bio –

Dr. Karen L. Lee is a Clinical Assistant Professor at the University of Houston College of Optometry. Prior to joining the University of Houston, Dr. Lee served as Director of the specialty contact lens clinic at the University of California, San Francisco Ophthalmology department. She is a regular contributor to Contact Lens Spectrum and is currently researching the sterility of scleral lens filling solutions. She is a reviewer for Contact Lens & Anterior Eye and enjoys lecturing both domestically and overseas. Dr. Lee is a proud recipient of the George Mertz Contact Lens Residency Award, Vistakon Clinical Excellence in Contact Lens Patient Care Award, and the Jack Bennett Humanitarian Award. Dr. Lee is a fellow of the American Academy of Optometry, an advisory board member of the Gas Permeable Lens Institute, a member of the Cornea & Contact Lens Section of the AAO, a member of the Ocular Surface Society and a Past President of the Scleral Lens Education Society.





### Stick The Landing: The Importance of Scleral Lens Alignment

Karen Lee, OD, FAAO, FSLS

#### **Financial Disclosures**

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#### **Scleral Lenses: A Brief Introduction**

Lathed with **high Dk gas permeable** plastics to provide crisp optics and maximum breathability. A preservative-free saline reservoir bathes the cornea providing protection and comfort.



Scleral alignment can be difficult! Especially if the scleral shape is rotationally asymmetric.

Fitting scleral lenses is incredibly rewarding and the **Scleral Lens Education Society** is a great **FREE resource**.

#### Learning Objectives

Improve our understanding of various scleral lens **landing zone presentations** and **associated complications**.

Increase awareness of available **landing zone customizations**.

Practical implementation of **scleral mapping technologies** in practice.

**Utilization** of landing zone customizations in the quest for scleral alignment.



01

Landing Zone Presentations 02

Potential Complications

Lecture Agenda

### 03

Landing Zone Customizations 04

Mapping Technologies

05

**Clinical Cases** 

#### SL Landing Zone

Portion of the scleral lens that aligns to the ocular surface and the scleral conjunctiva.

Can be designed to be rotationally asymmetric or symmetric .

### **Scleral Shape**

### Data Acquisition Corneo-scleral Topography







# Scleral Shape

#### **Meridian in Degrees**





Low amplitude changes in sagittal height over the entire measured 360°



Circumferential scleral shape approximating a Sin 2 curve with a periodicity of 180°

# Asymmetric High or Low Points





Circumferential scleral shape where the depressions or elevations were of substantially different depths or heights.



40.7%

Circumferential scleral shape with a single large elevation or depression.

## Periodicity different from 180°



Circumferential scleral shape plot demonstrating multiple elevations and depressions over 360°



Single elevation and single depression over 360° thus the periodicity is twice that seen in a regular toric "Roughly 1/3 of eyes could be fit with a **spherical or toric scleral lens**. But 2/3 showed an **irregular pattern**."



Diagnostic Scleral Lens Fitting

**Consider toric starting lens!** 

**Dynamic vs Static fit** 

#### **Edge Alignment**







#### Alignment

-Large and small vessels flow evenly under lens edge -Minimal shadowing

#### **Primary vs Extreme Gaze**

-Blanching in extreme gaze is common and might be unavoidable





#### **Anterior Segment OCT**

-Conj/sclera bisects the lens edge

#### Compression

#### **Compression & Blanching**

-Lens presses on vessels and impedes blood flow causing areas of blanching

#### **Blood Vessels Involvement**

-Large caliber vessels affected with **greater** amounts of compression

#### **Anterior Segment OCT**

-Can highlight exact cause/curves causing tightness

#### Signs and Symptoms

-Rebound injection -Conjunctival staining/impression -Ocular pain/tenderness



#### Compression







#### Edge Lift





Edge Lift -Lens edge is flatter than sclera

#### Shadowing Only -Lens edge is <u>mildly</u> too flat

Breaks in Tear Meniscus -Lens edge is <u>moderately</u> too flat

#### Signs & Symptoms

-Eyelid discomfort -Reservoir debris/bubbles

Faint area of shadowing at 12 o'clock with occasional breaks in tear meniscus

**Toric Marking Correspondence** 

# Minor Imperfections Acceptable



### Modifications Needed









#### **Benefits of Quadrant Specific SLs**

Clinical Outcomes of Scleral Lens Fitting with a Data-driven, Quadrant-specific Design: Multicenter Review

Melissa Barnett, OD, FAAO,<sup>1</sup>\* Karen G. Carrasquillo, OD, PhD, FAAO,<sup>2</sup> and Muriel M. Schornack, OD, FAAO<sup>3</sup>

Improved vision Decreased MDF Shorter fitting process when utilizing a quadrant-specific fit set

Tear Exchange, Intraocular Pressure, and Wear Characteristics of Quadrant-specific Versus Spherical Haptic Scleral Lenses

Cherie B. Nau, OD, Muriel M. Schornack, OD, Jay W. McLaren, PhD, Alexander P. Hochwald, MS, and Karen G. Carrasquillo, OD, PhD

#### Improved comfort associate (st

Method: Seven participants (eight eyes) wore each of two lenses for 2 vecks before measurements. We measured visual acuty, contrast sensitive intervention preserve (OP), that reserve elements correct histories. The Decreased tear exchange

eye.<sup>1-3</sup> These studies showed that the selera is neither spherical nor has predictable rotational symmetry. The earliest SL designs had spherical landing zones, but increasing appreciation of the nonspherical shape of the selera led to the introduction of SLs with toric, quadrant-specific, or custom (impression-based or imagused) landing zones. More advanced SL designs, which have complerical landing zones, may provide improved fit and visual neutry and thus require less frequent middle improved fit and visual

# Advanced Landing Zone Customizations

ube shun

### Conjunctival Obstacles

#### Commonly seen: Pinguecula Pterygium Symblepharon Glaucoma blebs or tube shunts

Photo Courtesy: Karen Lee

Goal: Minimize SL interaction and ocular irritation. Bleb

# **Avoidance Tactics**

#### Localized vaulting:

• Variation of vault in one area

#### Notch:

Sculpting and removing portion of lens edge

#### Truncation

Removal of portion of lens edge

### **Localized Vault**

**Fruncation** 

# Measuring Elevations

Lens on
Manual lens centration
<u>Gauge w/slit lamp beam</u>



### ~1:1 on 10x mag!

#### Length



#### **Necessary Details**

Location (°) Length (mm) Width (mm) Distance from lens edge (mm)

#### Width









### Scleral Topographers

- Each topographer is compatible with specific scleral lens designs
- All scleral shape data is helpful, especially before starting the fitting process



### **Freeform Scleral Lens**

#### Corneo-scleral topography data driven

Highly dependent on image quality Initial in-office over-refraction required Temporary D/C of habitual SL wear

#### Highly customized lenses

Easier fitting process Decrease chair time Modifications may still be required

Tricky lens removal?

#### Tricky Lens Removal?

Parallel planes theory...

Poor plunger adherence...

Channels

Manual creation of tear reservoir bubbles



#### Channel





# **Clinical Case**

70 yo Hispanic female



# **Clinical Case**

40 yo Hispanic female



### **Initial Exam Findings**

#### History

Blurry & fluctuating vision with contact lenses at all distances OU.

#### Keratometry

OD: 48.1@066 / 52.9@156 OS: 53.1@123 / 57.7@033

#### **Autorefraction**

OD: 0.00-2.00X106 OS: +0.25-1.25x045

#### Manifest Refraction

OD: +1.00-6.00x006, 20/25 OS: -6.00-6.00x127, 20/25

#### **Presenting CLs & Entering VAs**

OD: 54% Hioxifilcon D / 14.4/8.0/-0.25-4.50X062, 20/30-OS: 54% Hioxifilcon D / 14.4/8.0/-2.00-6.00x126, 20/30-

One of many many attempts!

#### **Corneal Tomography Findings OU**



#### **Scleral Elevation Map OS**



### **Initial Observations**

"Toric" scleral shape Two conjunctival elevations

#### Single Elevation: Straight foward



### Initial Lens Design Considerations

What are non-negotiables?

Back surface toric landing zone

One localized vault At 352 degrees 3.5 mm tall 1.5 mm wide... 0 mm from lens edge



#### **Temporal Vault Only**

Toric Diagnostic Lens

Trial Lens "1"

First lens lost in transit.

#### **Trial Lens "1": Nasal Pinguecula**



#### 1 Week Follow-up Visit

### **Chief Complaint**

Decreased VAs Eye gets red Removes and reapplies every 5-6 hours

Midday Fogging Nasal Irritation: injection, staining

Strongly advised against two localized vaults.

Consultation

Incorporate a notch

#### Trial Lens 2: Nasal Pinguecula in Primary Gaze



#### Trial Lens #2 Nasal Pinguecula in Lateral Gaze



Without Vault

With Vault

### Trial Lens #2

#### **Notch Parameters**

At 350 4mm length 3D:

#### Patient Feedback

Difficult application Lens awareness Less midday fogging

### **Corneal Molding Technology**



# Thanks!

### Do you have any questions?

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**Dr. Schweitzer** 

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