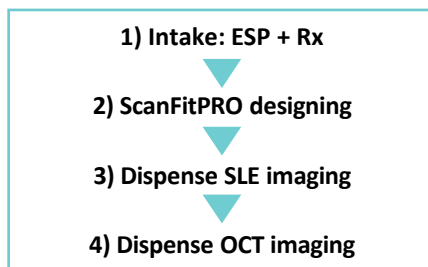


Background

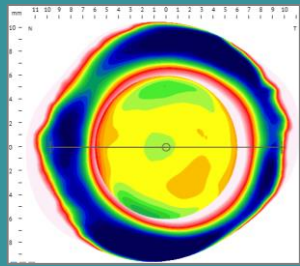
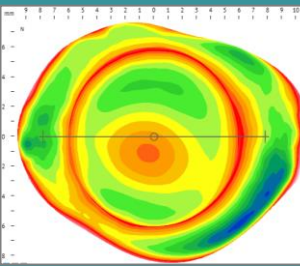
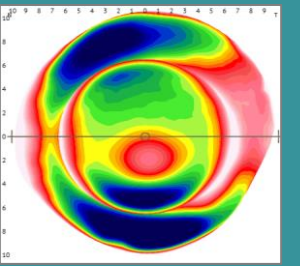
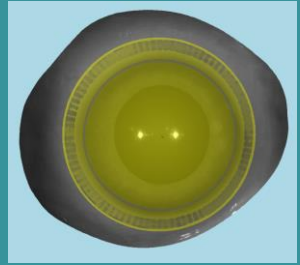
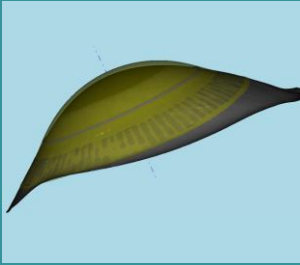




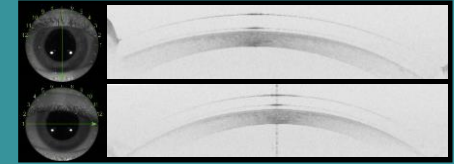
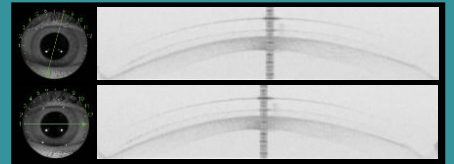
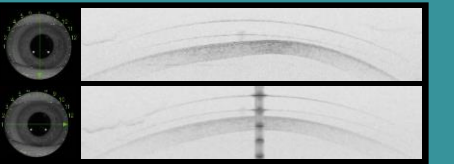
The advent of COVID-19 has led to many changes around the world including in the field of Optometry. However, new developments arising during this time within both, the scientific and medical fields, have been a silver lining. Technologies are now even more available to reduce our needs for physical contact and interaction. This has led to reduced patient visits and fewer lenses needing to be placed onto eyes. In the United Kingdom, the Government advice from a COVID point of view has been to ensure minimal visits to an Optometrist. Thus eye care practitioners have turned to empirical fitting methods for speciality contact lenses. Patients having to travel across the country to visit their scleral lens specialist will benefit from minimised visits. Despite reduced chair time empirical fitting will increase the patients' success with scleral lenses significantly.

COVID fitting protocol, fitting in 2020

Total chair time is reduced significantly due to all technology available in 2020. The flow chart as shown below did develop quickly during COVID. ESP and ScanFitPRO both provide visuals showing the patient what will happen. SLE (Slit-lamp) and OCT (Optical Coherence Tomography) show what happened. The visualization builds confidence for the practitioner as well as the patient.



COVID FITTING APPROACH:

	Patient no. 1	Patient no. 2	Patient no. 3
1)			
2)			
3)			
4)			

Case description

Scleral Profilometry taken with the Eaglet Eye ESP (Eye Surface Profiler) provided 3D data with a coverage of at least 17 millimetres in 360 meridians. ScanFitPRO software was then used to design scleral lenses with a 17mm diameter, based on fully automated algorithms.

With all three cases, the default values for apical, mid-peripheral and limbal clearances was used. The refractive power was measured based on a trial lens. All six eyes showed a uniform clearance over the cornea and a smooth transition into the landing zone. No blenching or edge lift was observed.

Conclusion

Although COVID-19 has made life challenging for companies, eye care practitioners and patients, it has forced the market to evolve quickly; creating new possibilities which offer everyone involved a quicker, more accurate, and most of all, safer lens fitting journey.

Empirically based, profilometry driven, customised scleral lenses are here to stay. #COVIDdriven #COVIDsilverlining