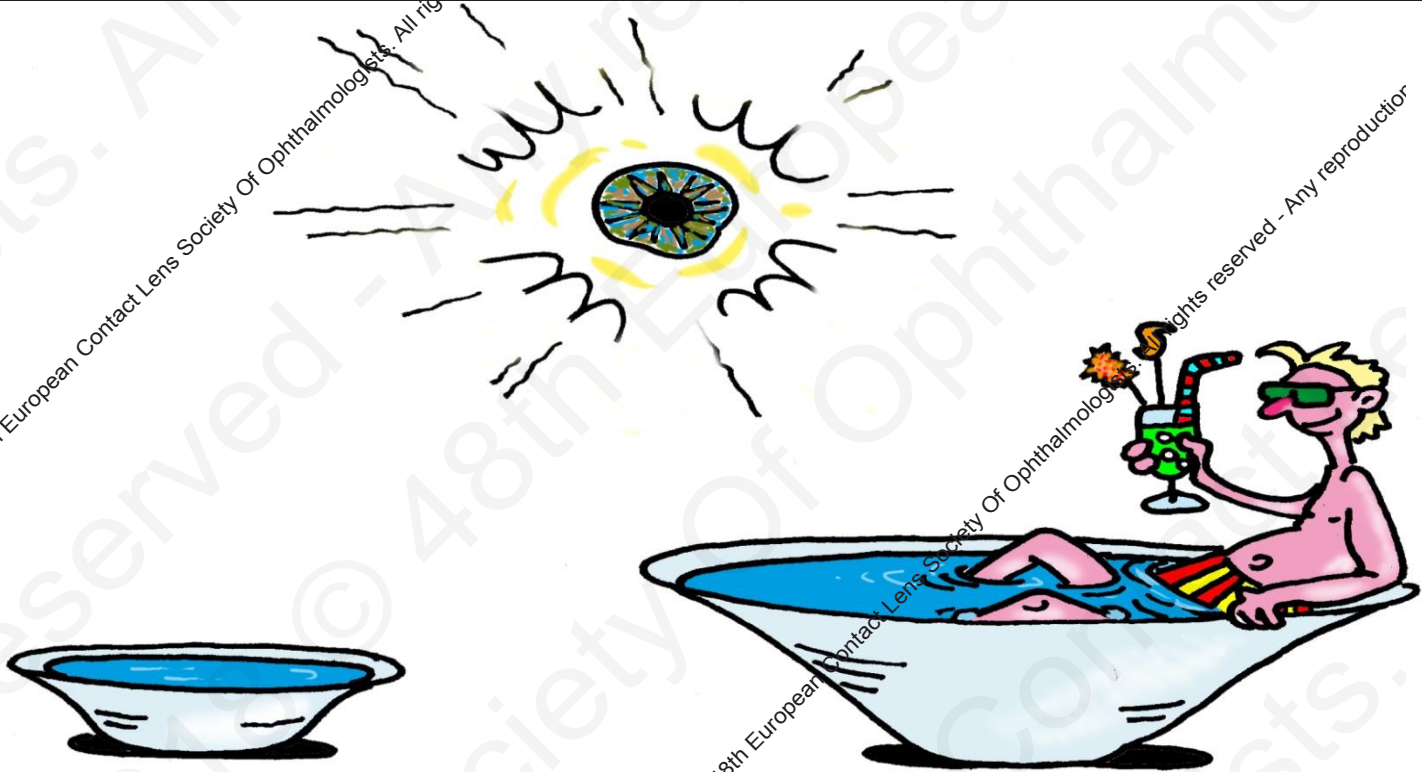


# Scleral Lens Controversies

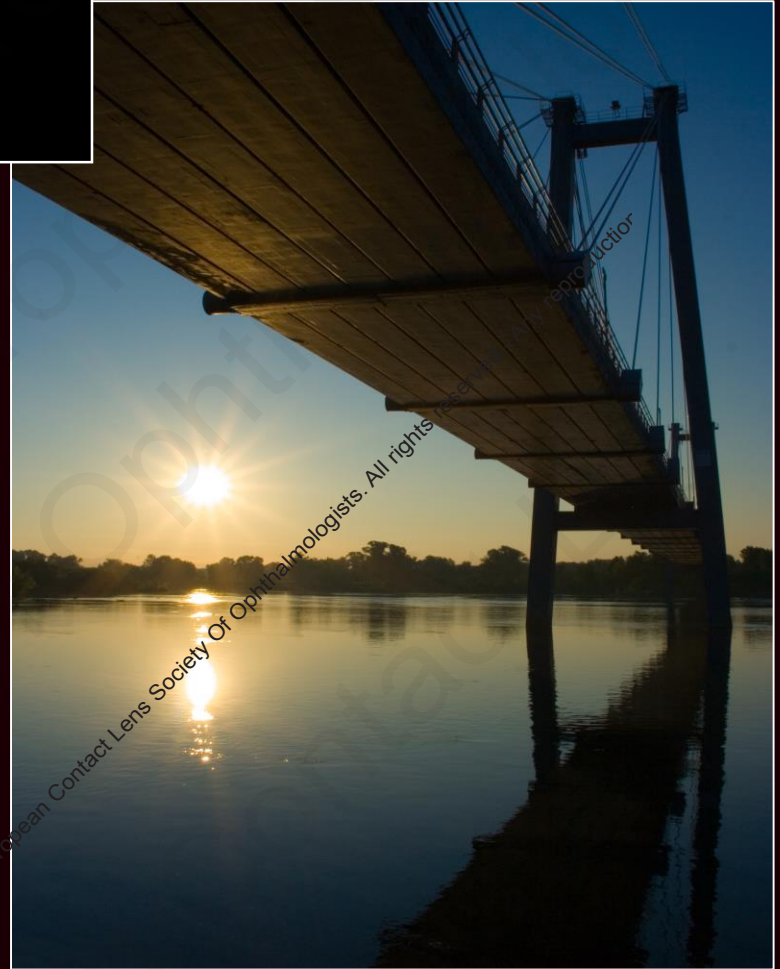


# Disclosures

- Alcon/CIBA vision, Allergan/Abbott, Bausch & Lomb Boston, Contamac, Coopervision, David Thomas, Ercon, Eyescan, Hecht, Johnson & Johnson, Microlens, NKL, Paragon Vision, Procornea, Soflex, Truform, Ultravision, Valley contacts, X-Cel
- Research Grant: Eaglet Eye – Eye Surface Profiler
- Educational Grant: B+L Boston – Scleral Lens Guide
- Educational Grant: NKL – The Learning Curve (book)
- Educational Grant: Contamac Ltd – generic specialty lens education



# SCLERAL LENSES



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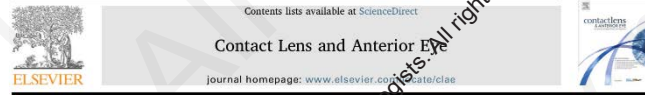
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# Scleral Lens Controversies



**LENS HANDLING**

# Scleral Lens Controversies



Editorial

## Scleral lenses (are) special

In previous editorials [1,2] editor-in-chief of this journal Shehbaz Naroo has suggested that in specialty contact lens fitting it was the practitioner that was special, or that a lens was special in certain circumstances. In case of scleral lens fitting this is not much of a debate even within the specialty lens profession, scleral lenses are regarded as a sub-speciality.

However, indications for scleral lens fitting have been evolving over the last few years, emerging from a lens type for severely irregular corneas only, to a much broader spectrum of indications. Scleral lenses that have their resting point behind the corneal borders are believed to be among the best vision correction options for irregular corneas; they can postpone or even prevent surgical intervention as well as decrease the risk of corneal scarring. For true clearance of the cornea without any mechanical involvement, it is advisable to avoid any contact between the lens and the cornea by bridging over it.

About 100 years ago, only a handful of very specialised lens fitters around the world were capable of fitting scleral lenses successfully, and only a few manufacturers were making scleral lenses. Now, many contact lens manufacturers have scleral lens designs in their arsenal. Improved manufacturing processes allow for better design, make lenses more reproducible and decrease costs, which combined with enhanced lens materials have contributed to improved ocular health, longer wearing time and ease of lens fit. Specialist contact lenses seem to be the fastest segment of the contact lens market.

The late '60s and early '70s of last century showed a small spike of publications in the peer reviewed journals on scleral lenses, but that is nothing compared to the recent surge of scientific publications on the topic [3]. Countless articles have been published on indications for scleral lenses and their benefits, which are most profound in visual performance improvement and/or comfort as compared to corneal lenses. Generally, quality of life can be increased, quite dramatically in some cases, with scleral lenses. As Jan Bergman et al. stated it in a previous editorial of Contact Lens & Anterior Eye: 'Scleral gas permeable lenses have come of age' [4].

Whilst we know now that they do work, and with a track record that goes back a few decades since the first gas permeable scleral lenses were introduced in the '80s of last century, there is a demand now for more knowledge about their absolute safety and convenience. Before opening up the scleral lens modality to an even broader group of patients – or even to uncompromised eyes – such knowledge is not only desired but it is imperative.

Contact Lens & Anterior Eye is therefore requesting submissions for a scleral lens special edition to be hosted in the December issue of the journal in 2018. As stated, more than showing the benefits of scleral lenses, we are looking for manuscript submissions in the scleral lens

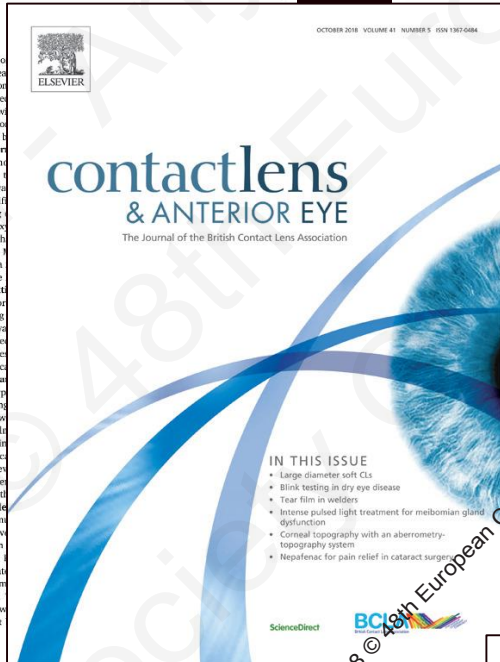
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Editorial

## Scleral lenses: History & future

Specialty Lens Symposium in Las Vegas (USA), a team at Pacific University (USA) together with (Australia) exhibited their 'Museum of Contact Lens' brought together glass eyes manufactured by the Zeiss Ikon in Germany (the maker of the very first contact lens) and over 1200 finished glass scleral lenses as well as the SPOFA soft lens manufacturing apparatus in the method designed by Joseph Dallos. A large diagnostic sets from around the world were que ophthalmometers and photokeratometers 1800s and early 1900s, and even eight of the first SPOFA soft lenses manufactured in the original paperwork) in 1966–1968 and many, including our interesting contact lens history [1].

Special lenses?

Specialty lenses – the grandparent of all modern contact lenses – a long way. The history chapter of a brand-new book (Contemporary Scleral Lenses: Theory and Practice) states that Leonardo da Vinci's illustration of a man with his head in a bowl of water taught us about the refraction of light. René Descartes, a French philosopher, and scientist, further explored that theory in his work on optics, and he was the first to use the word 'refraction' to describe the eye enlarged the size of the retinal image. In the 18th century, the first contact lenses were made by artificial eye makers. Artificial eye makers used to ensure that Egyptian pharaohs, and it gradually spread throughout Europe. In 1787, a German optician reported that 2,000,000 contact lenses were made in the German Empire each year, and a total of 300,000 pieces per year. The first scleral lens was made in Germany, made in 1887 by Adolf Fick in Germany, to manage ocular surface disease. Adolf Fick described the use of scleral lenses in 1887. In that same year, Eugene Kalt, an ophthalmologist, investigated contact lenses as 'orthopedic appliances' of keratoconus. The scleral lens was born.

Scleral lens safety

It has often been queried as to how safe scleral lenses would be. The mentioned history chapter led to a book by Treisman and Placice from 1946, which reports that a Zeiss scleral lens was used on a patient who was killed on hitting the ground. Although his eyes, and particularly his head, were extremely damaged in the accident, the Zeiss scleral lenses he was wearing were eventually recovered and found to be intact. Another question that is always at the forefront in scleral lens practices is how to avoid air bubbles. Müller attempted to avoid bubbles by inserting the lenses under water. Although in itself not a bad idea, this created limited lens tolerance. Discomfort experienced by Müller due to the hypotonicity of the fluid behind the lens led him to use cocaine eye drops prior to lens insertion. However, the toxicity of cocaine to the cornea did not help much and added the risk of addiction. To overcome some of the problems with solutions, Henri Dor, an ophthalmologist in Lyons, France, in 1892 recommended the use of physiological saline solution to insert scleral lenses, which is still recommended today.

Scleral lenses from the heart

One of the nicest features of the Contemporary Scleral Lenses book may be the prologue, with the four scleral lens pioneers, Donald Zeeb, Reinos Visser, Ken Pullum and Perry Rosenthal each introducing the book. Sadly enough, Perry Rosenthal passed away on March 3rd 2018 (please see obituary on pages [xx-xx], 10/1016/j.clae.2018.04.001).

The compassion of the scleral lens pioneers is contagious, and their expertise is beyond question. Reinos Visser stated that 'The process of fitting scleral lenses requires more than simply using your hands and your heart; you also need to use your heart! Fitting scleral lenses is more than fitting a device – you are changing people's lives. That may require creative thinking at times, and extra guidance and assistance if needed. Also, Ken Pullum and Perry Rosenthal provide their special and personal look at scleral lenses. Don Zeeb recalls that 'Getting the materials was the first hurdle. The hardest hurdle to overcome was assuring practitioners to understand that fitting scleral lenses was not difficult'. It is often a much needed and the only lens option for patients to obtain optimal vision with all day wearing comfort. This book certainly will contribute to better understanding and acceptance of scleral lenses worldwide.

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.clae.2017.07.006>

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Eef van der Worp, Melissa Barnett, Lynette Johns



# Practitioner Learning Curve in Fitting Mini-Scleral Contact Lenses in Irregular and Regular Corneas using a Fitting Trial

<sup>1</sup>Rute J. Macedo-de-Araújo, <sup>2</sup>Eef van der Worp, <sup>1</sup>Ana Amorim-de-Sousa <sup>1</sup>José M. González-Méijome

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GLOBAL Specialty Lens Symposium

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## Introduction

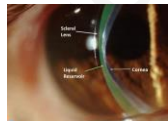


Figure 1. Schematic image of a ScCL covering an irregular cornea. Notice the liquid reservoir promoted by this lens which covers the entire cornea without touching it.

There is increasing evidence that scleral supported rigid gas permeable contact lenses (Figure 1) are suitable to compensate a wide range of corneal conditions derived from primary corneal disease, post-surgical complications and even in normal corneas. (1-3) The recent rebirth of scleral contact lenses (ScCL) has been accompanied by a more predictable fitting process, but there is still a significant degree of uncertainty due to the few clinical available devices for objective measurement anatomical features of the corneal surface beyond the corneal borders.

Fitting recommendations given by several manufacturers use to consider only the clinical features and the degree of severity of the corneal condition to decide the starting point for fitting. Few studies however report the success rate of the fitting process.

**Purpose:** To assess the learning curve of a novel practitioner with minor previous experience with ScCL fitting in the initial 156 consecutive scleral contact lenses fittings in irregular and regular corneas using a fitting trial.

## Methods

## Results

### Number of Trial Lenses (Figure 2)

- The average number of trial lens per eye was 1.85±0.71 (1.84±0.69 on Irregular Corneas Group and 1.88±0.77 for Regular Corneas Group, with a range between 1 and 4 lenses per eye in both groups). There were no statistical significant differences between groups (p=0.970);
- There was a decrease in the number of trial lenses: from 2.35±0.18 lenses in the first 20 fittings to 1.56±0.13 in the last 20 fittings (p<0.05);
- After fitting number 60, the mean number of lenses began to be statistically significant lower than the first 20 fittings (p<0.05);

### Number of Re-orders (Figure 3)

- The average number of re-orders was 0.76±0.77, being 0.73±0.07 (range 0 to 4 lenses) on Irregular Corneas Group and 0.88±0.14 (range 0 to 3 lenses) on Regular Corneas Group. There were no statistical significant differences between groups (p=0.303);
- There was a decrease of almost 1 re-order per eye, from 0.95±0.17 in the first fittings to 0.25±0.11 in the last fittings (p<0.05);
- After fitting number 60, the mean number of re-orders began to be statistically different than the first 20 fittings (p<0.05 - Wilcoxon).

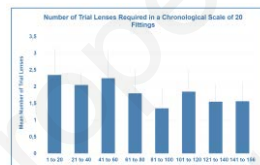


Figure 2. Mean number of trial lenses required to achieve the best fit. Data is in a chronological scale of 20 fittings.



## Discussion

Many experts mention the steep learning curve in fitting ScCLs, however there are no peer-reviewed publications on this theme. Studies with corneal RGP report the need of 1 to 5 lenses, with a mean of 2.3<sup>(4)</sup> and 1.73<sup>(5)</sup> trial lenses per eye to achieve the best fit. According to our results, a mild-experienced ScCL fitter will need less trial lenses (1.50 on average), with a reduction of 1 trial lens per eye with experience, that could mean also a cost-time reduction.

Regarding the re-orders, we found a 60% optimal fit rate in the first lenses ordered – with RGPs, others have reported 77%<sup>(4)</sup> and 33%<sup>(6)</sup>.

Regarding the prescribing pattern of toric landing zone lenses, it could be challenging to prove that the augment in the number of fittings with this design lead to a change in the practitioner skills, since those subjects with toric scleras could present at any time during clinical trials.

The trends shown in this study could be affected by asymmetry of more challenging or easier to fit cases that might appear at any time during the course of the study. However, the large sample recruited and uniformity in inclusion and exclusion criteria should contribute to a uniform distribution of cases with different degrees of difficulty.

## Conclusions

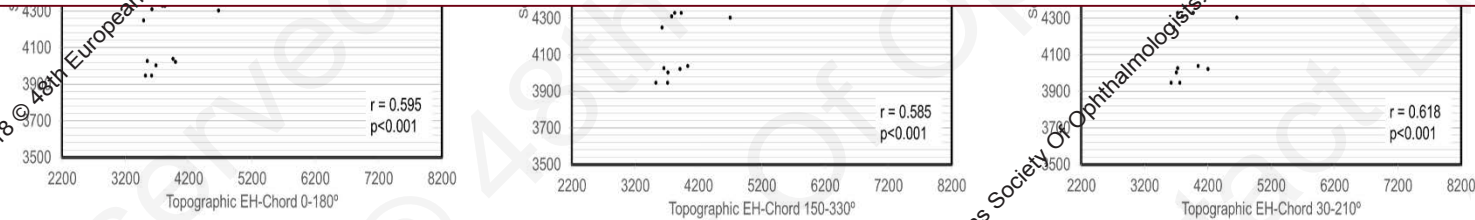
Approximately 60 cases were required before obtaining a significant reduction in the trial lenses and re-orders necessary. Also, there is a trend towards using toric designs more frequently.

# Relationship of placido corneal topography data with scleral lens fitting parameters

Rute J. Macedo-de-Araújo<sup>a,\*</sup>, Ana Amorim-de-Sousa<sup>a</sup>, António Queirós<sup>a</sup>, Eef van der Worp<sup>b</sup>, José M. González-Méijome<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Clinical & Experimental Optometry Research Lab (CEORLab), Center of Physics, University of Minho, Braga, Portugal

<sup>b</sup> Eye-Contact-Lens Research & Education Amsterdam, The Netherlands



\*Estimated Height (EHChord) = scleral lens projected diameter

\* Vault – Cornea-lens separation

--- OC\_SAG @ 10mm

..... OC\_SAG @ 12mm

--- ScCL\_SAG

...further reduction in the trial lenses and re-orders necessary?





Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

# Contact Lens and Anterior Eye

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/clae](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/clae)



The time course and nature of corneal oedema during sealed miniscleral contact lens wear

**Scleral lens induced corneal oedema is stromal in nature. On average, central stromal and total corneal thickness increased rapidly following lens insertion and peaked after 90 min.**

Corneal changes following short-term miniscleral contact lens wear



**Modern miniscleral contact lenses that vault the cornea may slightly influence corneal shape and power but do not induce clinically significant corneal oedema during short-term wear.**

The influence of centre thickness on miniscleral lens flexure

**When intentionally reducing scleral lens centre thickness to enhance oxygen transmissibility, customised back surface designs may be required to minimise in-vivo flexure in eyes with > 200  $\mu\text{m}$  scleral toricity at a 15 mm chord.**





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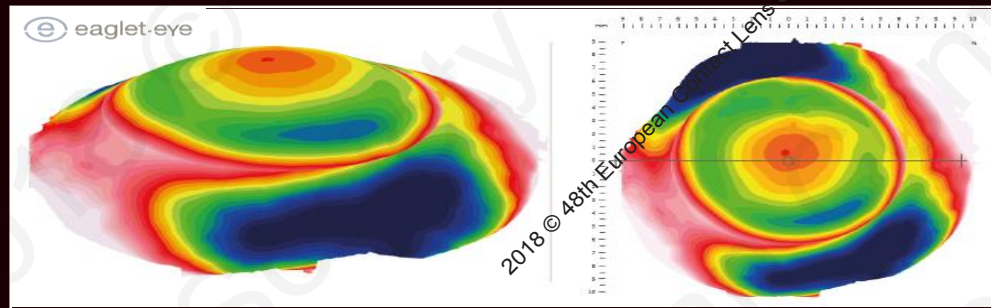
journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/clae](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/clae)



## Anterior eye surface changes following miniscleral contact lens wear

Alejandra Consejo<sup>a,b,c</sup>, Joséphine Behaegel<sup>c,d</sup>, Maarten Van Hoey<sup>a</sup>, James S. Wolffsohn<sup>e</sup>,  
Jos J. Rozema<sup>a,c</sup>, D. Robert Iskander<sup>b</sup>

**Short-term miniscleral contact lens wear in healthy eyes does not produce significant corneal shape changes measured with profilometry but alters sclero-conjunctival topography..... sclero-conjunctival flattening was not uniformly distributed across the anterior eye.**





Review

### Modern scleral contact lenses: A review

Eef van der Worp<sup>a</sup>, Dina Bornman<sup>b</sup>, Daniela Lopes Ferreira<sup>c</sup>, Miguel Faria-Ribeiro<sup>c</sup>, Nery Garcia-Porta<sup>c</sup>, José M. González-Mejome<sup>c,\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Pacific University, College of Optometry, OR, USA

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Scleral lens performance  
Adverse events

#### 1. Introduction

Scleral contact lenses (ScCL) were linked to the use of contact lenses at the end of the nineteenth century, corneal lenses and later soft contact lenses, obsolete for a long period of time. The therapeutic ScCL continued to be reported in the peer-reviewed literature [3,4] but only a few specialized practices used ScCL on a regular basis.

However, in the last few years, more competition has entered the ScCL market, and this was reflected in the literature in this area. These lenses demonstrated their ability to successfully fit most patients with corneas that were intolerant to other forms of vision correction. Piggyback, hybrid or corneal gas permeable lenses, these lenses are also known as "medical contact lenses." Tan et al. showed that 69% of their

\* Corresponding author at: Department of Physics (Optometry), University of Minho, 4710-057 Gualtar, Braga, Portugal. Tel.: +351 253 628 920; fax: +351 253 628 921. E-mail address: [jgme@fisica.uminho.pt](mailto:jgme@fisica.uminho.pt) (J.M. González-Mejome).

# COMPLICATIONS

## 8.2 Severe Adverse Events

It is unclear at this point whether the oxygen permeability of current materials used to manufacture ScCL is sufficient (see section 4.2). In addition, the tear stagnation behind these lenses might contribute to higher rates of adverse events such as microbial keratitis, especially considering the already compromised status of most of the corneas.

Rosenthal and Croteau reported the occurrence of four cases of microbial keratitis in patients wearing the Boston Scleral lens on an extended wear basis. Compliance has also been implicated

# MICROBIAL KERATITIS

rehabilitation because

series of five patients in a US Army burn unit who suffered severe ocular burns, the authors reported two cases of microbial keratitis related to *Pseudomonas* and MRSA.<sup>50</sup>

However, this is considered a non-standard situation in which many other comorbidities are implicated. The occurrence of adverse reactions in uncompromised eyes wearing ScCL has not been commonly reported in the peer-review literature.

## Scleral Lens Prescription and Management Practices: The SCOPE Study

Jennifer Harthan, O.D., Cherie B. Nau, O.D., Joseph Barr, O.D., Amy Nau, O.D., Ellen Shorter, O.D.,  
Nicolette T. Chimato, M.S., David O. Hodge, M.S., and Muriel M. Schornack, O.D.

**Objectives:** To assess current scleral lens prescription and management practices by conducting an international online survey of eye care providers.

**Methods:** The SCOPE (Scleral Lenses in Current Ophthalmic Practice: an Evaluation) study group designed and administered an online survey regarding current scleral lens prescription and management practices. The survey was open from January 15 to March 31, 2015, and generated 723 responses from individuals who had fit at least 5 patients with scleral lenses.

**Results:** Respondents (n=663) prescribed scleral lenses that ranged from 15 to 17 mm in diameter (65%), smaller than 15 mm (18%), and larger than 18 mm (17%). More than 50 lens designs were identified. Average daily wearing time of 11.8 hr was consistent across 651 respondents, and 475/651 (73%) recommended midday removal on some, most, or all days. Most respondents recommended nonpreserved saline to fill the bowl of the lens before application (single-use vials, 392/653 [60%]; bottled products, 372/653 [57%]). A hydrogen peroxide-based disinfection system was the most commonly recommended care product (397/651 [61%]).

**Conclusions:** A reasonable degree of consensus exists regarding some aspects of scleral lens prescription and management (average lens diameter, daily wearing time, and use of nonpreserved products for lens application). Further study is needed to develop evidence-based guidelines for scleral lens prescription and management.

**Key Words:** Contact lens.

(Eye & Contact Lens)

Scleral soft contact lenses were used in the United States in the late 1970s and early 1980s by Muehleisen and Muehleisen.<sup>1</sup> They were able to oxygenate the cornea after relatively long wearing times. Large-diameter scleral lenses were used in the early 1980s, although they were not gas-permeable. Scleral lenses were used in the early 1990s at specialty eye care centers or contact lens fitting centers. The introduction of scleral lenses vastly expanded the use of scleral lenses and led to the development of new scleral lens care practices and management protocols.

When scleral lenses are worn, they can cause corneal irregularities and dry eye, but perhaps not as often as previously reported, and in some cases, they may have been precipitated by the disease for which the lenses were prescribed. Although scleral lenses were often used in the past to manage corneal irregularities, they are now used to manage a variety of ocular surface conditions.

When scleral lenses are worn, they can cause corneal irregularities and dry eye, but perhaps not as often as previously reported, and in some cases, they may have been precipitated by the disease for which the lenses were prescribed. Although scleral lenses were often used in the past to manage corneal irregularities, they are now used to manage a variety of ocular surface conditions.

From the Illinois College of Optometry (J.H.), Chicago, IL; Department of Ophthalmology (C.B.N., M.M.S.), Division of Ophthalmology, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN; The Ohio State University School of Optometry (J.B.), Columbus, OH; Korb & Associates (A.N.), Boston, MA; Contact Lens Service (E.S.), University of Chicago, Chicago, IL; and Biostatistics Unit (N.T.C., D.O.H.), Mayo Clinic, Jacksonville, FL.

J. Harthan: Consulting contracts: Morgan, Bausch + Lomb/Valent, Metro Optics; J. Barr: Stock holder: Envision, Access Media, Consulting contracts: Bausch + Lomb/Valent Pharmaceuticals and Novartis; Contract research: InnoVega and Valent Pharmaceuticals; M. M. Schornack: Advisor: Bausch + Lomb/Valent; C. B. Nau, A. Nau, E. Shorter, D. O. Hodge: The remaining author has no conflicts of interest to disclose.

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# COMPLICATIONS

## MICROBIAL KERATITIS

For corneal GPs this is 1 on 10,000 lens wear years (0.01%)\*. For DW soft this is 5 on 10,000 lens wear years (0.05%)\*.

‘incidence’ van 0.1% for infections with scleral lenses.

‘survey based on 84,000 lens fits’



## Visual and physiological outcomes of scleral lens wear

Muriel Schornack<sup>a,\*</sup>, Cherie Nau<sup>a</sup>, Amy Nau<sup>b</sup>, Jennifer Harthan<sup>c</sup>, Jennifer Fogt<sup>d</sup>, Ellen Shorter<sup>e</sup>

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### Table 4

A total of 164 adverse events were reported during 734.3 patient years of lens wear. The most common adverse finding was conjunctival injection, followed by **handling**/application error.



Table 4

A total of 164 adverse events were reported during 734.3 patient years of lens wear. The most common adverse finding was conjunctival injection, followed by **handling**/application error.

	Corneal Irregularity	Ocular Surface Disease	Refractive Error	Total
<i>Conjunctival Findings</i>				
				73
				15
				5
				1
				5
<i>Other Findings</i>				
Neovascularization	9	1	0	10
Bullae	2	0	0	2
Infiltrates	1	0	0	1
Limbal edema	8	1	0	9
Limbal hypoxia	2	0	0	2
<i>Other Findings</i>				
<b>Handling</b> /application error	19	2	2	23
Uveitis	2	0	0	2
Toxic keratopathy	1	0	0	1
Increased intraocular pressure	0	1	0	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>164</b>

## CASE REPORT

### Case Series: Corneal Epithelial Macrocysts in Scleral Contact Lenses Post-penetrating Keratoplasty

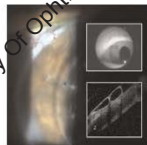
Linda Trang Nguyen, OD, FAAO,<sup>1\*</sup> David Yang, OD, FAAO,<sup>1</sup> and Lee-Vien, OD, FAAO<sup>1</sup>

**SIGNIFICANCE:** Transitory corneal epithelial macrocysts associated with scleral contact lens wear post-penetrating keratoplasty are observed in areas of corneal edema. The macrocysts do not appear to result in complications that would prevent successful wear of scleral contact lenses.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this study is to report three cases of transitory corneal epithelial macrocysts associated with scleral lenses in post-penetrating keratoplasty corneas.

**CASE REPORTS:** Three cases including anterior segment photographs and anterior segment optical coherence tomography highlight the clinical presentation of transient corneal epithelial macrocysts.

**CONCLUSIONS:** Corneal edema and anatomical alterations after penetrating keratoplasty along with the relative pressure underneath a scleral contact lens are hypothesized to have caused the transient epithelial macrocysts observed in these cases. Because of the transitory nature of these cysts without evidence of consequential corneal damage or cyst rupture over years of observance, we believe that it is safe for these patients to continue wearing scleral contact lenses with routine follow-up.



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There are numerous indications for scleral contact lenses including the visual rehabilitation of irregular corneas status post-penetrating keratoplasty. Our purpose is to present three case studies on transient corneal epithelial macrocysts as a result of scleral

contact lenses. His best-corrected visual acuity was 20/30 in each eye with 1-month-old Tyco-97 (Lagado Corporation, Englewood, CO) mini-scleral lenses worn for 9 hours. The amount of central clearance was assessed by comparison of the fluid reservoir beneath the



post-penetrating keratoplasty with replacement of the intraocular lenses of the right eye. His ocular medications included rimexolone 1% one drop in each eye nightly.

in the left cornea in all quadrants except superiorly. The central corneal grafts remained clear with no signs of rejection or infection.



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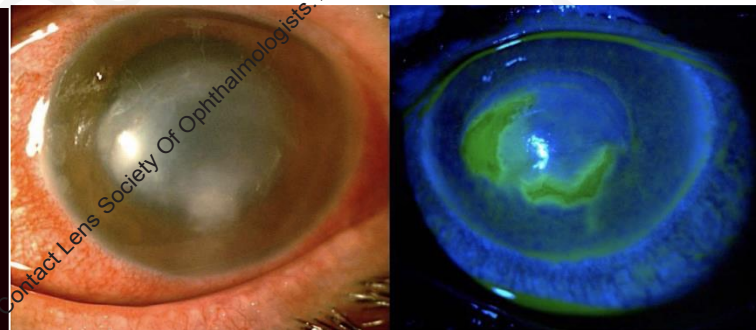
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### Acanthamoeba keratitis in patients wearing scleral contact lenses

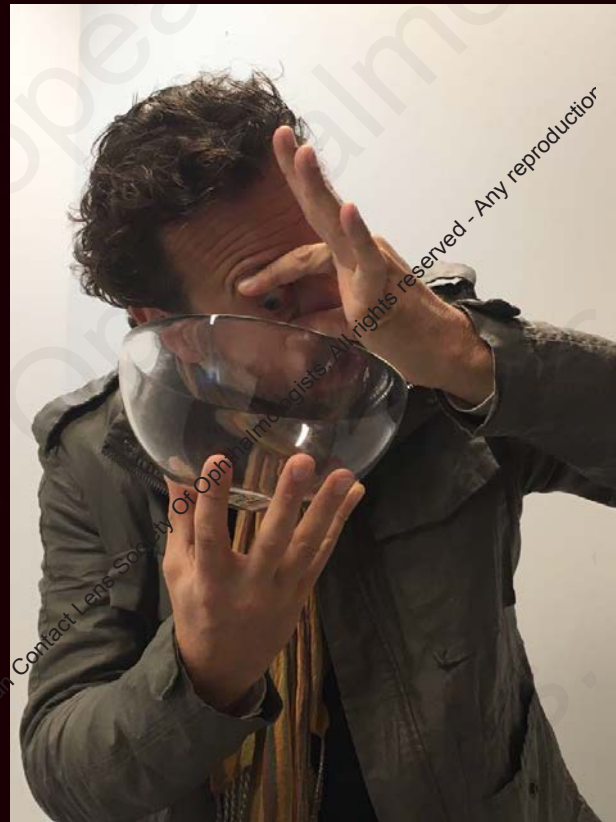
Matheus Porto Sticca, Linda C. Carrijo-Carvalho, Isa M.B. Silva, Luiz A. Weira, Luciene B. Souza, Rubens Belfort Junior, Fábio Ramos S. Carvalho, Denise Freitas\*

Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences, Paulista School of Medicine, São Paulo Hospital, Federal University of São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil, Brazil



# LENS HANDLING

Safety....



# Sccleral Lens Controversies



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## Contact Lens and Anterior Eye

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/clae](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/clae)



### Visual quality with corneo-scleral contact lenses for keratoconus management—Part II

Juan Carlos Montalt<sup>a</sup>, Esteban Porcar<sup>a,\*</sup>, Enrique España-Gregori<sup>b</sup>, Cristina Peris-Martínez<sup>c</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Department of Optics, Optometry and Vision Sciences, Physics College, University of Valencia, Burjassot, Valencia 46100, Spain

<sup>b</sup> Department of Surgery, Ophthalmology Unit, la Fe University and Polytechnic Hospital, Faculty of Medicine and Odontology, Valencia 46026, Spain

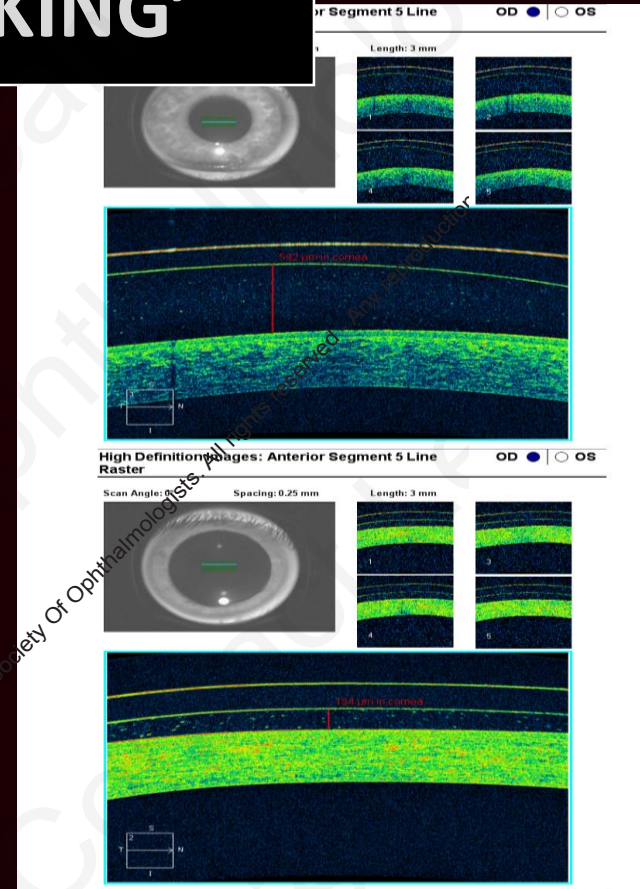
<sup>c</sup> FISABIO Oftalmología Médica (FOM), Cornea Unit and Anterior Segment Diseases, Catholic University of Valencia, Valencia

**12.6 – 13.5MM**

# CLEARANCE



# 'SINKING'



**Kaufmann - 109 micron (8h)**

**Pacific University - 127 micron (8 h)**

**Mountford - 146 micron (30 days)**

**50% settling in the 1<sup>st</sup> hour**





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# Contact Lens and Anterior Eye

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## Posterior cornea and thickness changes after scleral lens wear in keratoconus patients

Maria Serramito<sup>a</sup>, Carlos Carpena-Torres<sup>a</sup>, Jesús Carballo<sup>a</sup>, David Piñero<sup>b,c</sup>, Michael Lipson<sup>d</sup>, Gonzalo Carracedo<sup>a,e,\*</sup>

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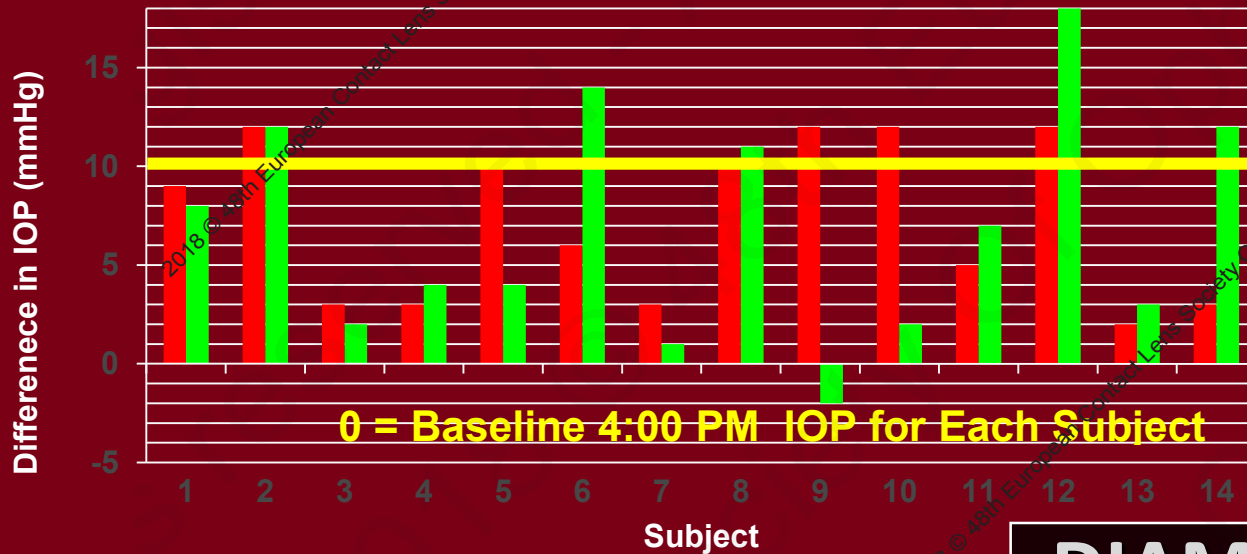
<sup>e</sup> Ocupharm Group Research, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology IV, Faculty of Optics and Optometry, Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Madrid, Spain

**Conclusions: Short-term scleral lens wear showed a thinning of the cornea and changes in the posterior corneal curvature affects different regions in keratoconus patients with and without ICRS.**

# Scleral Lens Controversies

## IOP INCREASE?

Change in IOP from baseline after 8 hours of scleral lens wear



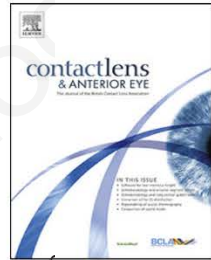
## DIAMETER RELATED?



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# Contact Lens and Anterior Eye

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## Intra-ocular pressure variation associated with the wear of scleral lenses of different diameters

Langis Michaud<sup>a,\*</sup>, Dan Samaha<sup>a</sup>, Claude J. Giasson<sup>a,b</sup>

<sup>a</sup> École d'optométrie, Université de Montréal, 3744 Jean-Brillant, Suite 270, Montreal H3T 1P1, Canada

<sup>b</sup> Centre de Recherche en Organogénèse Expérimentale de l'Université Laval/LOEX et le Centre Hospitalier Universitaire de Québec, Hôpital du Saint-Sacrement, Québec, Canada

**These results suggest that, as evaluated with a non-standard transpalpebral methodology, IOP during scleral lens wear may be increased in average by 5 mm Hg, regardless of the lens diameter. More work is needed to confirm if practitioners should be warned when using SL on populations at risk for glaucoma.**



# Effect of Scleral Lens Wear on Intraocular Pressure

A. Philip Aitsebaomo, OD, PhD, Jeanette, Wong-Powell, OD  
 William Miller, OD, PhD, Amir, Farshid, OD  
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## BACKGROUND

With renewed interest in prescribing Scleral Contact Lenses (ScCL) because of their effectiveness in the treatment of moderate to severe corneal ectasia, we wanted to determine if ScCL wear affect intra-ocular pressure (IOP), since they rest entirely on the sclera.

## METHODS

Nine subjects with normal corneas and IOP, were recruited for an Institutional Review Board approved study. Best fit ScCL from a 15.8mm diameter 0.4mm thick commercially available trial-lens set was fitted for a randomly selected eye. A soft contact lens was fitted in the fellow eye. Three IOP measurements were taken with rebound iCare tonometer prior to lens insertion (about 9:30AM), and immediately after lens removal (about 5:30PM). Initial and final central lens vault was determined with anterior segment Zeiss optical coherence tomography (OCT). Mean pre-and post-lens wear IOP was calculated for each eye and the means were analyzed with a Student-test and Bland Altman plot.

## RESULTS

IOP increased with ScCL wear for all subjects (Table 1). Soft lens eyes showed a slight increase for some, but decreased in others. Unpaired t-test showed a significant difference ( $p < 0.05$ ,  $R^2 = 0.5014$ ) between the mean IOP for ScCL eyes and soft lens eyes. Bland-Altman bias was 6.43 (SD of bias 3.139). ScCL settling ranged from 56  $\mu\text{m}$  to 200  $\mu\text{m}$ , with a mean of  $104 \pm 53.62 \mu\text{m}$ . There was no correlation between IOP change and amount of settling.

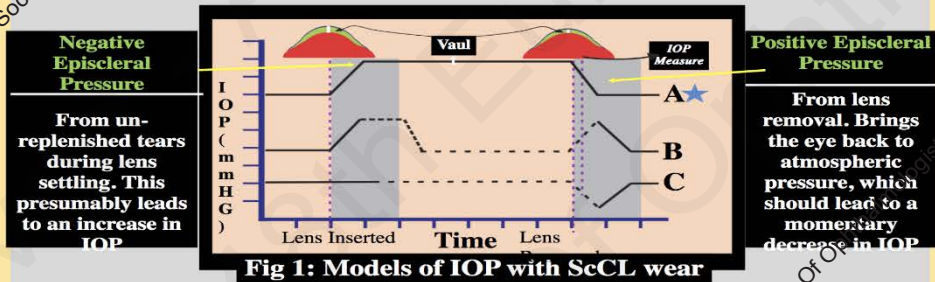


Fig 1: Models of IOP with ScCL wear

Sub. #	ScCL IOP (mm Hg)			Soft Lens IOP (mm Hg)			ScCL Central Vault ( $\mu\text{m}$ )		
	Baseline	Final	Change	Baseline	Final	Change	Baseline	Final	Settling
1	9.67	12.33	2.67	10.33	9.00	-1.33	364	300	64
2	23.00	30.33	7.33	22.67	22.67	0.00	420	220	200
3	17.33	20.33	3.00	18.00	17.00	-1.00	604	528	76
4	26.00	40.67	14.67	26.00	28.33	2.33	436	280	156
5	18.33	21.67	3.33	18.33	13.33	-5.00	564	396	168
6	19.67	23.00	3.33	21.33	20.67	-0.67	320	264	56
7	10.00	16.33	6.33	10.33	11.67	1.33	200	120	80
8	12.67	20.33	7.67	16.67	14.67	-2.00	460	364	96
9	12.33	20.33	8.00	12.00	14.00	2.00	220	148	72

Table 1: IOP and central vault pre- and post-lens wear

## DISCUSSION

This study measured IOP after lens removal and inferred IOP with lens on eye. Fig. 1 shows different models for IOP change with the lens on the eye. Model "A" supports our assumption. One study<sup>3</sup> measured IOP in 2 subjects with ScCL on the eye and did not find a significant increase in IOP with ScCL wear. However, the study found that IOP was consistently higher in the ScCL eye than no-contact lens eye.

## CONCLUSIONS

ScCL eyes showed increased IOP upon lens removal, suggesting increased IOP with lens on eye. Eye care practitioners must consider this possible outcome in treating patients with ScCL and prudent measures should be in place to monitor IOP.

## References:

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- Emily KorszenOD, Patrick Caroline, Beth Kinoshita OD, Matthew LampaOD, Mark André, Randy Kojima, and Eefvan der WorpBOptomPhD (2017): Does Scleral Lens Wear Influence Intraocular Pressure? Available at: <https://www.gslsymposium.com/getattachment/Posters/Korszen.-Emily-et-al-Does-Scleral-Lens-Wear-Influence-IOP.pdf.aspx>

# Sccleral Lens Controversies



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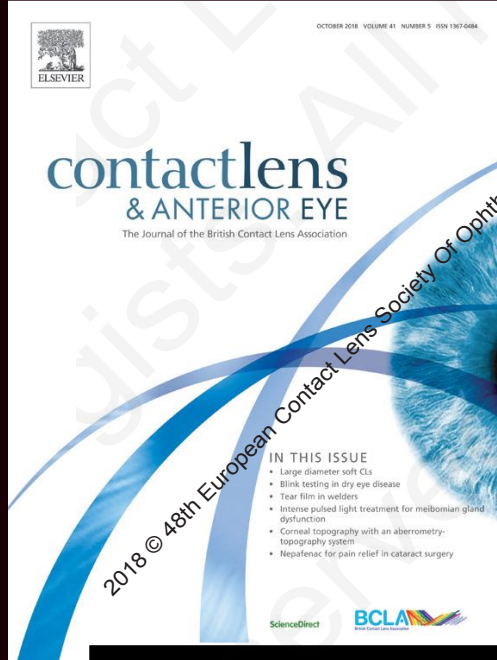
journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/clae](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/clae)



## Differences in corneo-scleral topographic profile between healthy and keratoconus corneas

David P. Piñero<sup>a,b,\*</sup>, Antonio Martínez-Abad<sup>a</sup>, Roberto Soto-Negro<sup>b</sup>, Pedro Ruiz-Fortes<sup>b</sup>, Rafael J. Pérez-Cambrodí<sup>b</sup>, Miguel Angel Ariza-Gracia<sup>c</sup>, Gonzalo Carracedo<sup>d</sup>

The corneo-scleral profile in keratoconus presents higher levels of asymmetry compared to healthy eyes, especially in eyes with moderate and advanced stages of the disease. The diagnostic accuracy of corneo-scleral topographic data alone for keratoconus detection is limited and must be used in conjunction with other clinical parameters.



# Scleral Lens Controversies

# I-site

Newsletter

International Newsletter and Forum on Corneal & Scleral Rigid Gas Permeable Contact Lenses, Corneal Shape, Health and Vision

Oct 2018

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**Column**

**Scleral Lens Controversies**

At the recent CLSO meeting in Mandelieu la Napoule (FR), scleral lenses were high on the agenda with all the benefits sclerals have to offer. But also covering in depth a number of controversies - topics that have been highlighted at the recent scleral lens meeting in ROME too. This only proves that scleral lenses growing and taken seriously. The main 'controversy' probably surrounds around 'hyopia' and safety issues. I can tell you 'spoiler alert' that this topic will be covered, with new insights, in a number of pages in the upcoming special edition on sclerals in Contact Lens & Anterior Eye. Stay tuned - as this for sure will be covered - and discussed - in future editions of this newsletter. In this edition, we will focus on other controversies' such as fitting characteristics, the learning curve in fitting sclerals, other health issues including macrocysts, and lens thickness, lens flexure) and scleral shape in this October issue of this newsletter.

Eef van der Worp

**Scleral Lens Fitting**

**Learning Curve**

Work by Rute Macedo-de-Araújo from Portugal presented at 2018 Global Specialty Lens Symposium showed that about about 60 cases were required before obtaining a significant reduction in the trial lenses and re-orders necessary: a