**Awesome Benefits of the Optomap**

**(including why we recommend it)**

**What is Optomap?**

Optomap is a unique technology that captures more than 80% of your retina in one image. This is the same area (the retina) that your eye doctor looks at when they dilate and look inside your eyes.

**History of Optomap**

Optomap first became available in the US in 1999 and is now being used in almost 13,000 eye doctor offices worldwide.

The amazing technology gives our doctors an ultrawide view that is not possible with traditional imaging methods. Also, optomap provides a historical record of your retinal health, allowing us to track and monitor any changes in your retina, year after year.

Why is this important? The light-sensitive tissue that makes up your retina is susceptible to a variety of diseases and is essential to detect problems early on.

**Optomap vs dilation for healthy eyes, what is the difference?**

Optomap is a 200-degree image of your retina, which is captured in under ½ a second. There is no pain, discomfort, or blurry vision associated with getting an optomap image taken.

During a dilated eye exam your eyes are dilated with eye drops that may sting. This process leads to blurry vision up close that often lasts for 4 to 6 hours. After your eyes are dilated, which can take up to 30 minutes, your eye doctor will use specialized equipment and lenses to look at the back of your eye.

**Below are benefits of getting optomap**

**digital retinal imaging.**

**Optomap allows our doctors to provide you with the most comprehensive eye exam most times without dilation.**

**Optomap may allow you to skip dilation**

If you elect to get the optomap and don’t have any retinal disease symptoms or risk factors, there is a very good chance you will not need to be dilated.

**Optomap is safe, sanitary and instantaneous**

This procedure is very safe and sanitary, as our team cleans the device with alcohol wipes between each patient. Also, it only takes ½ a second to capture an optomap image that will be immediately available for interpretation by our doctors.

**Optomap is very comfortable, painless and does not require eyedrops.**

**Optomap can be done on patients of all ages including toddlers and kids**

**Optomap gives you the opportunity to learn about your own eye health**

Our doctors LOVE to educate patients on their overall eye health. Optomap images are another wonderful tool to help us do so.

**Optomap does not impact your vision**

**Optomap is the ultimate tool to ensure the health of your eyes – and in some cases your overall health**

Did you know that most retinal disorders do not cause pain or other symptoms? When detected early enough, many retinal problems can be treated to avoid vision loss. Once a retinal problem causes a loss in vision, it is rarely reversible. As a result, early detection is vital to preserving good eye health. Also, some non-eye related conditions may be identified based on your optomap image.

**Optomap is the best way to monitor change in your eye health over time (i.e. prevention)**

Why? A picture is worth 1000 words! Optomap technology allows our doctors to compare past year’s photos side by side.

**Optomap can be safely done on women who are pregnant**

For the safety of your baby’s development, our doctors prefer not to dilate pregnant women (unless absolutely necessary).

**Optomap assists in the detection of eye diseases like glaucoma, macular degeneration, diabetic retinopathy and MUCH more.**

Our eye doctors are trained to detect countless eye diseases through optomap retinal imaging.

**Optomap saves you time**

If dilation is not required because it can take up to 30 minutes for your eyes to fully dilate.

**Optomap can be used to see more of your retina**

With a single optomap image we can capture up to 80% of your retina (as compared to 15-60% with a traditional imaging device. And, if we need to, our technicians can take directional optomap photos to zone in on areas our doctors want to evaluate further.

**You can take a picture of your optomap from your phone**

This way you can share it with family or friends as well as keep it for your own personal records.

**Optomap becomes part of your permanent record**

This allows our doctors to best monitor change over time.

**Frequently Asked Questions**

**Can I wear my contact lenses during optomap?**

Yes

**How often is it recommended to have an optomap done?**

We recommend including optomap in every comprehensive eye exam. On average, we recommend our patients get their eyes examined once a year.

**Does this mean I will not have to be dilated:**

It depends. Prior to having optomap technology, there was no technology available that gave our doctors a comprehensive image of your retina. Now that we have optomap available, it’s unlikely our doctors will have to dilate your eyes if they are healthy. Optomap will assist our doctors in the evaluation of your retina. However, our doctors may use optomap AND dilation to complete their evaluation of the retina. This is at our doctors discretion based on your exam findings and eye health.

**If I don’t have an optomap, will I still get a good exam?**

Yes. Optomap is particularly important for those who are at risk for diabetes since they are particularly prone to problems in the retina that can lead to vision loss.

**How much does optomap cost?**

$39.00

**Does insurance cover the optomap?**

Unfortunately, most vision plans do not offer coverage for optomap at this time. Some medical plans will cover it with certain diagnoses.