

BROADENING THE VISION CARE CONVERSATION

When **Harvey Richman, OD, FAAO, FOVDR**, and **Maria S. Richman, OD, FAAO**, of Shore Family Eye Care in Manasquan, New Jersey, began working with Neurolens in the fall of 2021, they were looking for another tool to support patients with concussions, traumatic brain injuries and other functional vision concerns. Their practice has a pediatric and vision rehabilitation focus.



Dr. Harvey Richman

Now they have the added convenience of being able to order their lenses from Newton directly through ABB Optical Group, which they say has helped streamline the process for their team, which was already familiar with ABB. "The speed of turn-around is much quicker," says Dr. Harvey Richman. "Since these orders are incorporated with our other orders, there's no extra shipping fee. Plus the quality and service at ABB are terrific."

Expanding candidate pool

The practice's interest in Neurolens started with therapeutic management, but the doctors soon saw benefits for a broader group of patients. Using the Neurolens N3, an immersive, virtual-reality diagnostic headset used to measure eye misalignment as part of a routine screening, it's easy to screen more patients. Headaches, neck and shoulder pain and even motion sickness are among the most common complaints that are often resolved by Neurolens. Newton also offers its Sequel lens for digital eye strain.

"Patients noticed that the lenses had a positive impact," says Dr. Maria Richman. "So many people spend a lot of time on

the computer, and they saw a reduction in headaches and other symptoms."

That effect resonated personally, too. Dr. Maria Richman became the first in the practice to try Neurolens. With binocular dysfunction, a history of migraines and emerging presbyopia, she needed different prism support for near and distance.

"We found there were many patients who could benefit from that technology." —Dr. Harvey Richman

She says the switch from traditional prism to Neurolens was especially rewarding.

Now, it's nearly commonplace in the office. "Three of the five doctors wear them, and several staff do too," she says. "They're very comfortable. If they switch back to their previous eyewear, they tell me that they notice the difference."

The N3 headset is so convenient that it makes it possible to add routine screenings for more patients, rather than reserving it only for those who came in with obvious

into a practice that has long been adding prism to patients' lenses. But Neurolens made screening more patients that much easier. "It's 100% more efficient," he says. "We can pull it up on the computer, show it to the patient, see their findings and explain how it relates to their near-point strain and uneasiness during the day. Before, working

off our numbers and exam chart, it was hard to explain that to patients."

They also trust the N3 measurements, which align with the practice's binocular vision evaluation process. "We measure for binocularity, and our measurements coincide with the headset, which is reassuring to doctors," says Dr. Maria Richman.

By screening more patients, they are finding those who could benefit that they may not have identified as readily before. "It's something that's been needed in our

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symptoms. Dr. Harvey Richman says, "We found there were many patients who could benefit from that technology."

"If we have a patient with symptoms, it's easy to describe how Neurolens could help." If they don't have noticeable symptoms, the doctor can use the visual report created to make the education easier. The patient education component has been especially helpful for children and families, he says.

It's also engaging. "All the kids love it. The kids want to play the game. I print out the patient report and hand it to the parent," he says.

A natural fit

For the doctors, the technology fits naturally

population," says Dr. Harvey Richman. "It is another tool in our toolkit."

While Neurolens began as a specialized option for select patients, it now serves a broader role at Shore Family Eyecare, including primary eyecare patients who didn't realize they have a binocular dysfunction and assumed it was normal to get eye strain.

That shows its versatility, says Dr. Maria Richman. "It can be used in many different doctor settings. It streamlines digital eye strain screening for the general population, presbyopes, children with vision and learning issues, and it helps with migraine and concussion patients, as well as my vision rehab patients." PA



Dr. Maria Richman