

Finding the Patient's Perfect Fit With DELTA Scleral Lenses

Diana Simeon, OD, of Bloomingdale Eye Care in Brandon, Florida, has found DELTA Scleral lenses to be highly effective when treating not only her mild to severe keratoconus and dry eye patients but also for improving visual acuity in scarred corneas. "I have used this lens on new scleral wearers and current wearers. Patients overwhelmingly state that the lens is very light and comfortable," she says.



Dr. Simeon

While that is the patients' perspective, from Dr. Simeon's viewpoint it's the fitting and centration that make DELTA her go-to scleral lens. ABB provides all that she needs for an optimum fit, and the learning curve is short. "The fitting set that ABB Specialty Vision Products put together contains everything I need to guide me through the fit." The fitting set consists of 18 lenses and three different diameters. "There was a little bit of a learning curve with the DELTA worksheet. However, the more I used the worksheet, the more intuitive the fitting became. The lens worksheet has terminology that made complete sense once I became familiar with it."

The fitting procedure, found in the diagnostic set, directly correlates with the order form. It can be used by the practitioner, and ABB Specialty Vision consultants will guide you from the initial lens selection through the step-by-step lens assessment. The diagnostic parameters were designed to provide a wide range of coverage while also simplifying the initial lens selection.

Selecting the initial diagnostic lens is based on the patient's horizontal visible iris diameter. The other calculation is the

sagittal depth choice, which is organized in the fitting set from left to right. Lenses toward the left deliver lower sagittal depths for more shallow corneas, while those to the right provide higher sagittal depths.

When first starting out, Dr. Simeon was able to rely on lab consultants with ABB Specialty Vision Products. For her early fits, she consulted with **Dede Reyes**, director of specialty vision education and consultation, for each fit. "Under her excellent guidance, I grew more comfortable with modifying lenses on my own. However, I still reach out to consultation when I want to confirm I am moving in the right direction. The ABB Specialty Vision lab is very efficient. I receive my ordered lenses within a week."

Building confidence

"I appreciate that there are multiple areas to make adjustments such as the quadrant haptics and the steep sag delta," she says. "The single most important aspect of the DELTA Scleral lens is the steep sag delta."



This parameter allows you to lift and center the lens, which is particularly difficult on the severe cones. With better centration, I achieve better acuity. I have not encountered this ability on any of the previous lenses that I have used. I have reduced my fitting times significantly."

The steep sag delta controls the chamber-driven fitting toricity. Creating toricity with the chamber rather than the angle of the landing zones allows for better centration and proper scleral alignment. The steep sag delta will be steepened when the lenses are decentered or when the steep meridian of the lens is not engaging the sclera. The steep sag delta will be decreased when the flat meridian is not properly engaging the sclera.

Being able to adjust the haptic sag deltas, which control the angle of the landing zones, "makes completion of fit more efficient and cuts chair time," says Dr. Simeon.

Patient comfort

While a practitioner's ease of fitting leads to increased and more efficient use of any scleral lens, patients want comfort and crisp visual acuity. "Patients have been so pleased with the outcomes," says Dr. Simeon.

She recalls two very memorable patients. One, a previous wearer, had been told that she would never see out of one of her eyes. They tried a DELTA Scleral lens anyway, and she had success from even the trial. "She actually started crying tears of joy before we got the trial lens on the other eye."

The second was a new wearer, a young adult who was very shy initially. She had completed training for a sight assistance dog and had resolved herself to not seeing. With the DELTA lens, it took two-and-a-half lens fits to get her to 20/20. "She is so outgoing now."

"Both of them have told me that their lives have been renewed. They are both driving again and have

regained so much self-confidence," says Dr. Simeon. These two cases demonstrate for her the significant difference that a successful scleral lens fit can have. The fitting process was quick and efficient. "I'll miss seeing them until their six-month follow up." **PA**