

# Navy Recruit Medical In Processing Update: Optometry Accession Standards, Waivers and Interesting Cases

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#### Presenter



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CAPT Lauby is an Aerospace Optometrist and currently serves as the Navy Specialty Leader for Optometry to the Chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery. He received his Doctor of Optometry degree from The Ohio State University and is a Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry, a Fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives, a Diplomate of the American College of Lifestyle Medicine, and adjunct faculty at the Illinois College of Optometry. He is currently a member of the following boards/working groups: MHS Optical Fabrication Advisory Board, DHA Refractive Surgery Board, DHA Vision Center of Excellence Functional Stakeholders, Armed Forces Optometric Society Section Chiefs, and the Medical Service Corps Professional Review Board.

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### **Learning Objectives**



At the conclusion of this activity, participants will be able to:

- 1. Summarize the purpose and mission of Optometry services in Navy recruit medical in-processing.
- Describe the complexity and scope of ocular and visual disorders that recruits present with at boot camp.
- Identify current updates to vision accession standards including keratoconus policy.

### 1523 Optometry—RTC Great Lakes





- Navy's only boot camp
- Up to 400 recruits/day
- 42,700 recruits last FY
- Waiver recommendations
  - ☐ Safety
  - ☐ Deploy ability
  - Occupational requirements
- Same day spectacle fabrication
  - ☐ Over 20,000 pairs/year

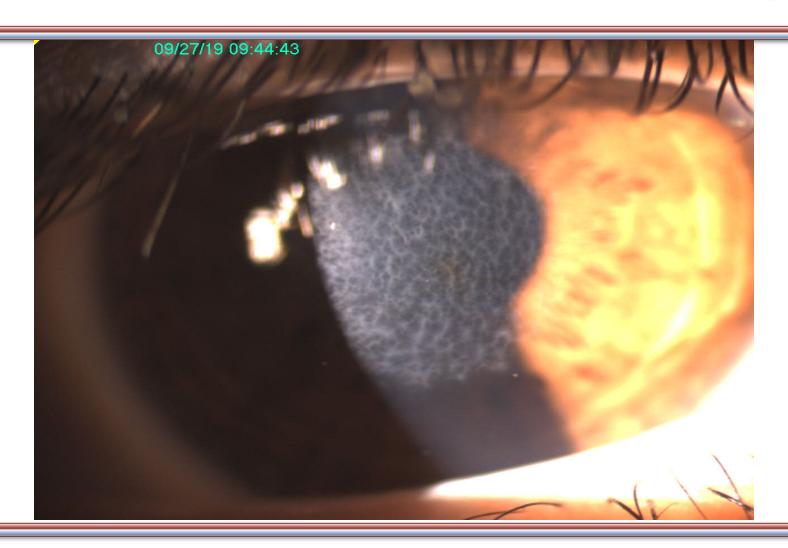
### Don't Believe the Hype



- 20 yo male: air traffic controller
- Hx: wore glasses since age 12; denies any eye trauma or surgery
- VAsc 20/200 OD, 20/30 OS; removed CL OD
- MR: -3.50 sph 20/20 OD, -0.50-0.50x026 20/20 OS

## **Imaging**

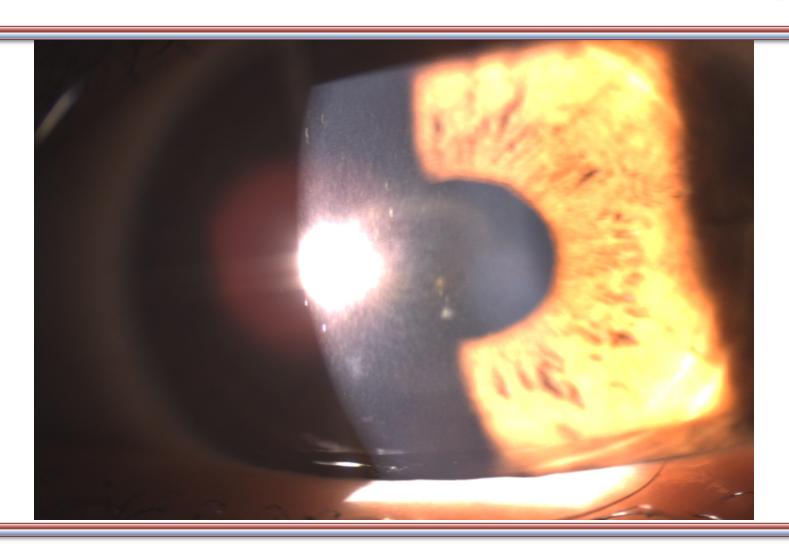




"Medically Ready Force...Ready Medical Force"

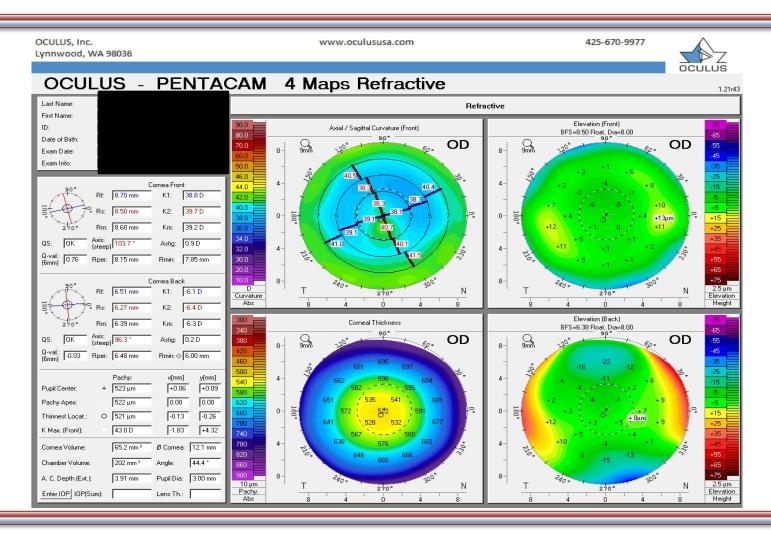
## **Imaging**





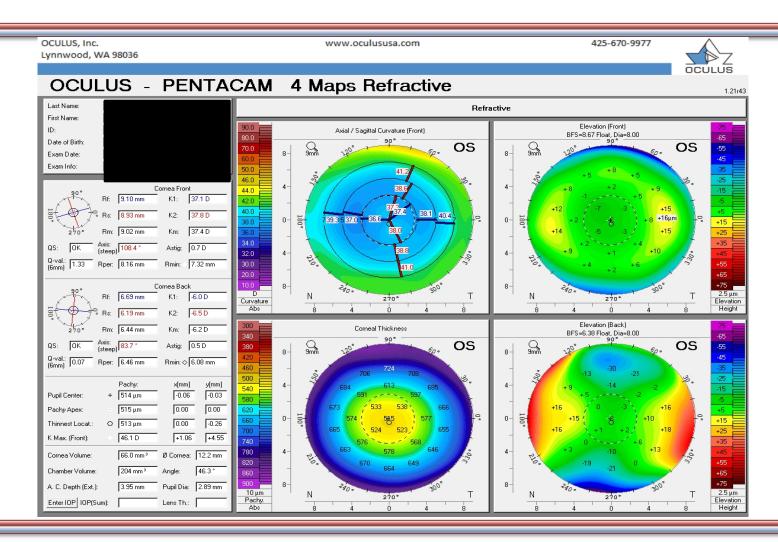
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### Federal law



■ "Federal law provides severe penalties (up to 5 years confinement or \$10,000 fine, or both) to anyone making a false statement. If you are selected for enlistment based on a false statement, you may be subject to prosecution under the UCMJ or to an administrative separation proceedings for discharge, and could receive a less than honorable discharge."

DD Form 2807-1

#### Waiver



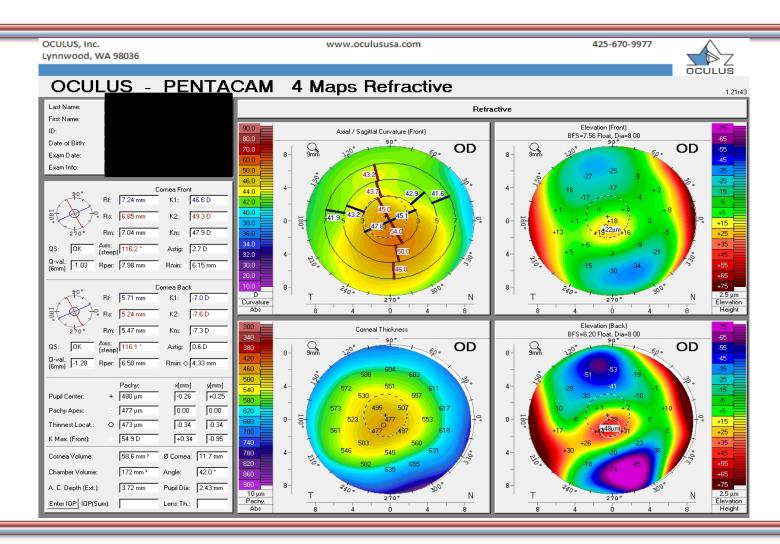
- Remembered he had refractive surgery last year in Brazil
- Unable to retrieve any pre/post-op records; recalls -7D OU
- Waiver recommended for corneal scarring s/p complicated PRK
- Reclassification from flight status

### **No Previous Eyecare**



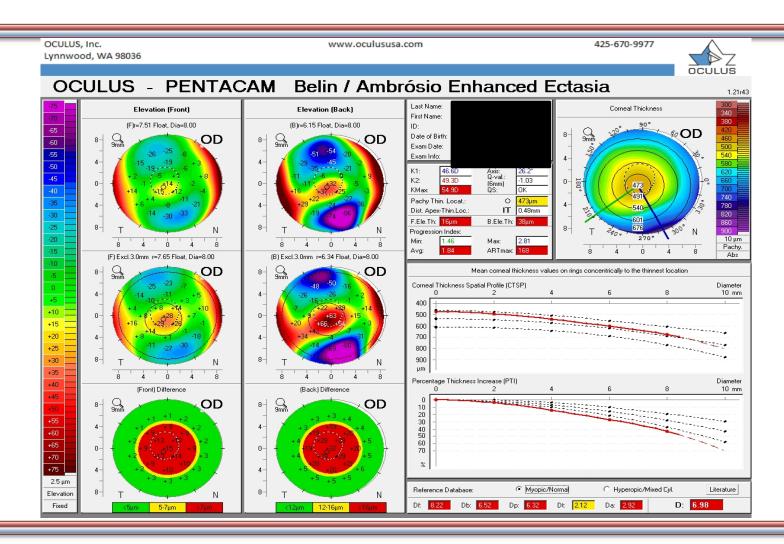
- 25 yo male: undesignated seaman
- No complaints; first eye exam
- VAsc 20/60 OD, 20/50 OS
- MR: -3.00-4.00x025 20/20 OD; pl-2.50x175 20/20 OS
- Cover test: 5pd XP @ D, 12pd ILXT @ N





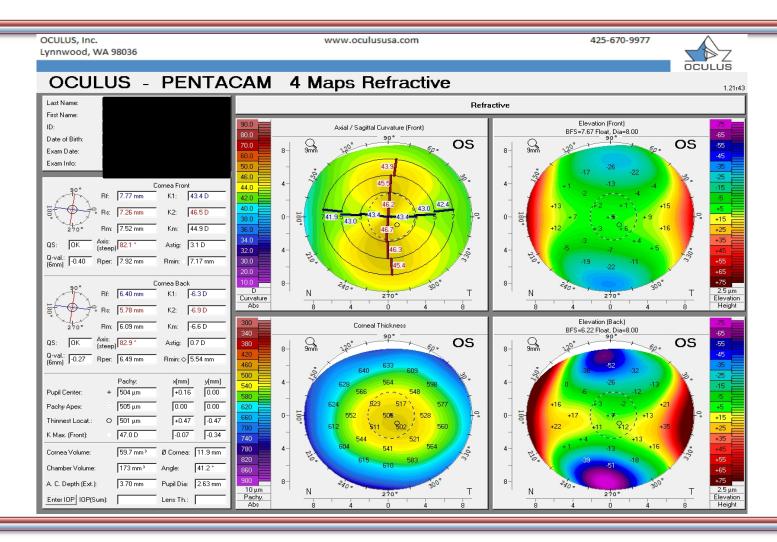
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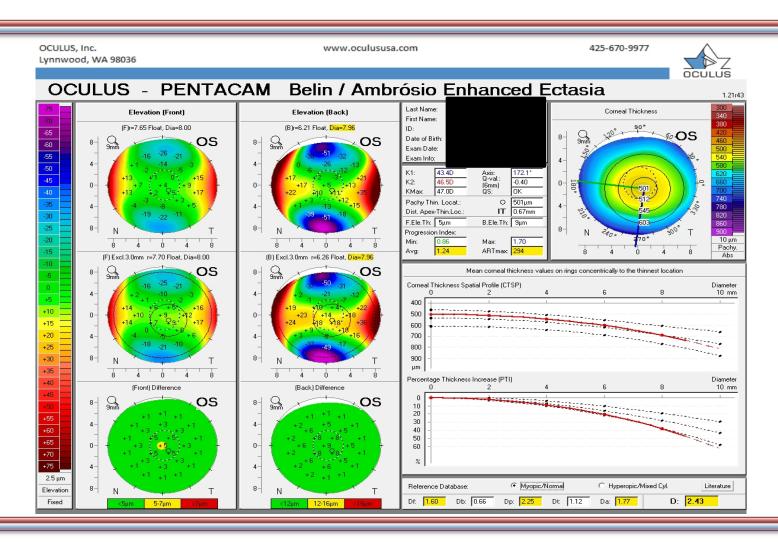
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### Waiver



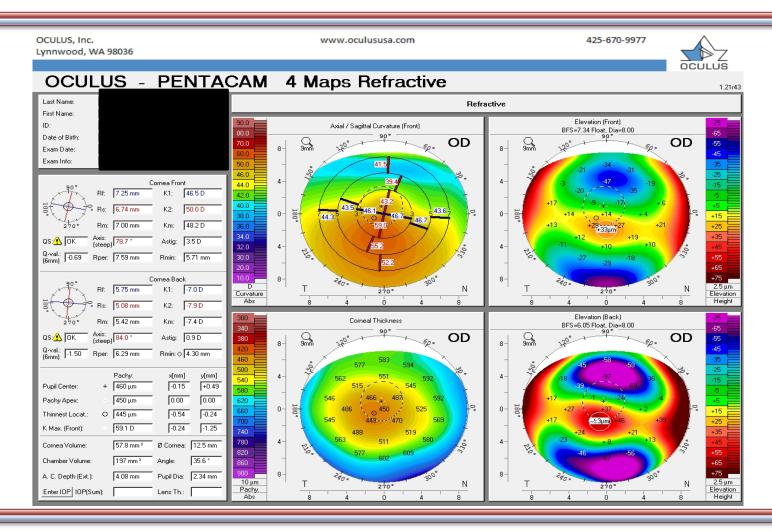
- Forme Fruste or Subclinical Keratoconus
  - ☐ BCVA w/ spectacles 20/20
  - ☐ No clinical signs via slit lamp
- WR for irregular astigmatism exceeding 3D OD and strabismus
- Expect to see a lot more keratoconus in the fleet!

### **Waiver Approved**



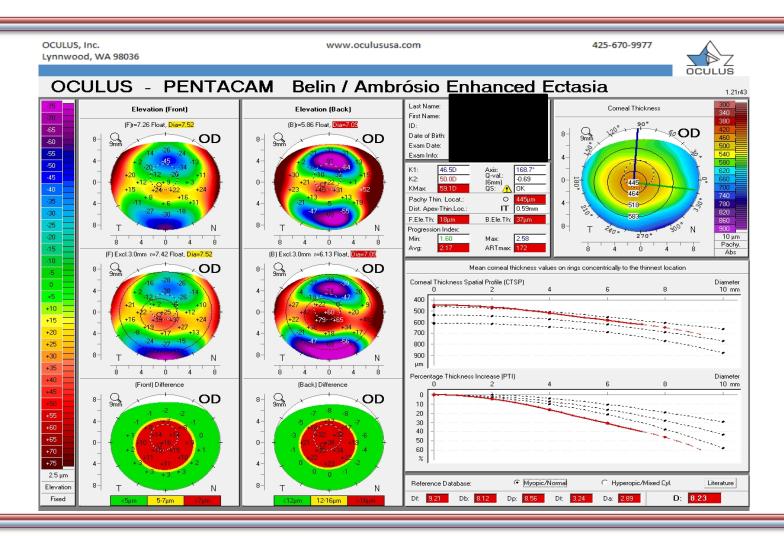
- 27 yo male: logistics specialist
- c/o double vision/blur cc, worse sc. Glasses x 2 yrs; balance lens OS.
- BCVA: 20/40 OD, 20/600 OS
- (+)scissor reflex, Fleischer ring, Munson sign, central corneal scarring/thinning
- Approved waiver from CNRC for keratoconus





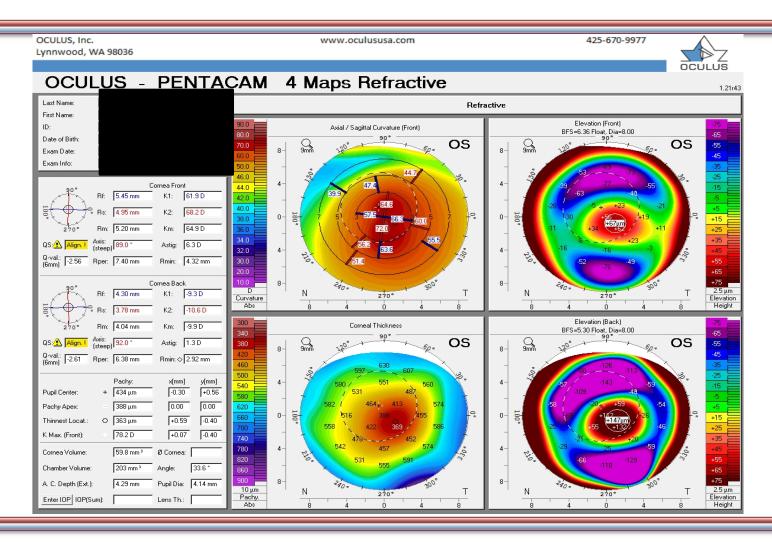
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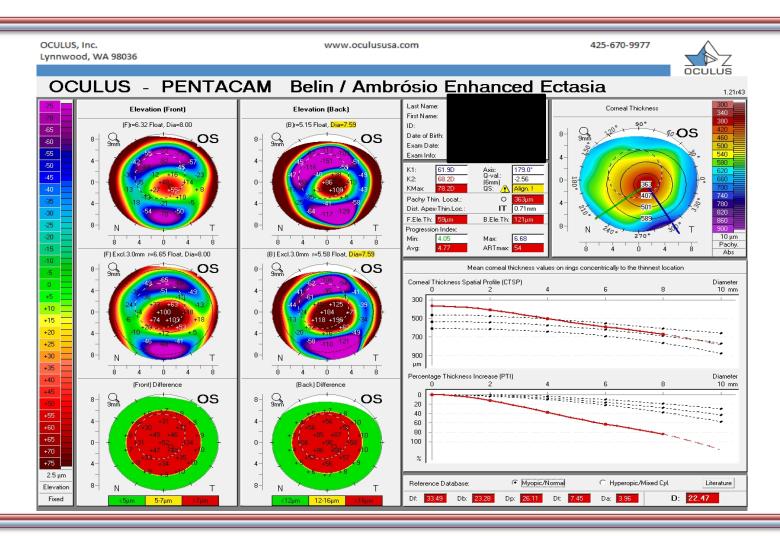
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#### Waiver



- Waiver did not address low vision OS
- Pentacam 6 mos prior--Kmax: 49.1 to 59.1 OD, 65.9 to 78.2 OS
- WNR for unstable keratoconus and category 3 visual impairment
- Entry level medical separation (ELMS)

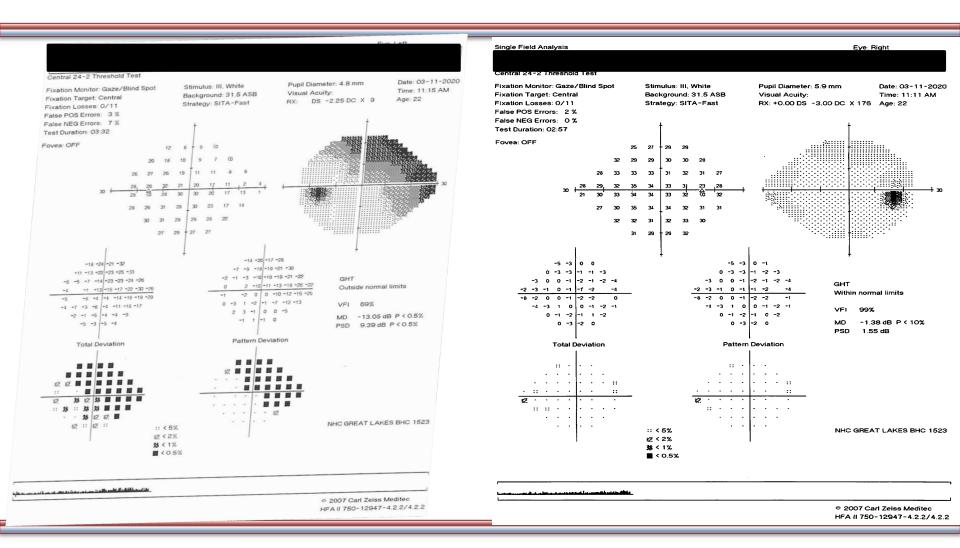
### 20/40—Good Enough?



- 22 yo male: advanced electronics field
- BCVA 20/20 OD, 20/40 OS. NI on subjective autorefraction.
- c/o blur OS x 1 week (prior to boot camp); no F/F; no hx of trauma
- CVF: restricted superior-nasally OS

### **Analysis**





## **Imaging**





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### Referral



- Same day referral to retinal surgeon
- Laser prophylaxis for multiple holes OD, scleral buckle for RRD OS
- 2 weeks later has PPV w/ gas tamponade OS
- ELMS when cleared to fly

### 20/20 at MEPS



- 24 yobm logistics specialist
- c/o decreased vision OS x 3 weeks (noticed when covered eye during ROM). At MEPS 20/20 OD/OS (9 months prior). Negative P/FHx.
- BCVA 20/20 OD, HM OS
- 2+ RAPD OS
- IOP: 27 OD, 38 OS
- Gonioscopy: open angles/no recession

## **Imaging**

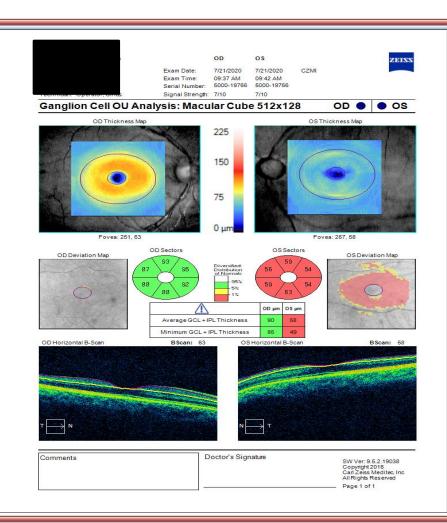


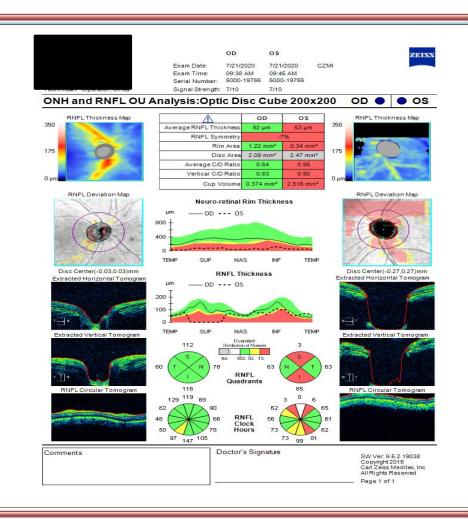


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## **Analysis**







#### **Consult**



- Ophthalmology consult
- Normal MRI brain/orbits
- Dx: Juvenile Open Angle Glaucoma
- Started latanoprost, Cosopt, brimonidine, Diamox
- ELMS

### What's the underlying cause?



- 19 yo male culinary specialist submarine
- BCVA at MEPS Consult: 20/40 OD, 20/50 OS
- Nml corneal topography and DFE
- Ophthalmologist's dx: decreased vision OU
- CNRC waiver approved for low vision
- Recruit reports vision has progressively worsened and symptomatic glare w/ night driving
- Low astigmatism, no amblyogenic factors

## **Imaging**

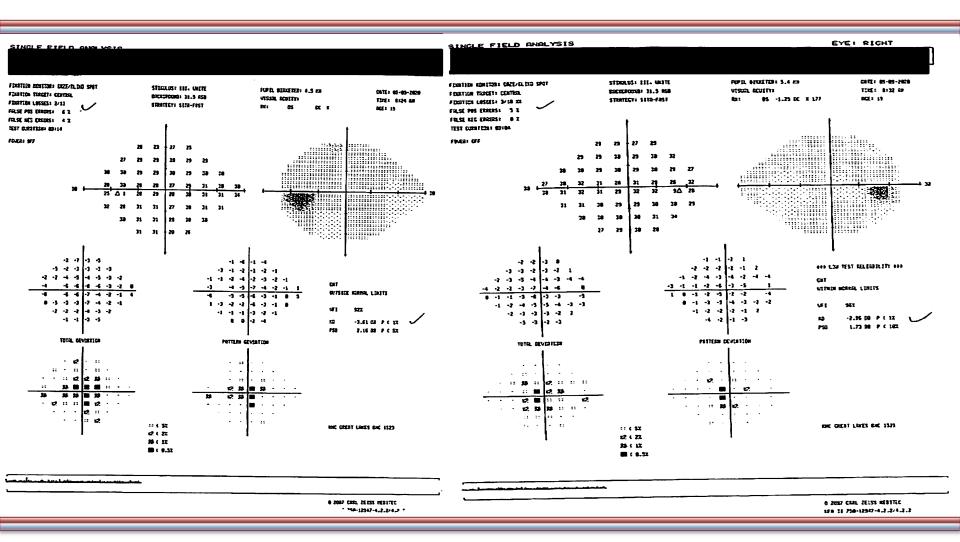




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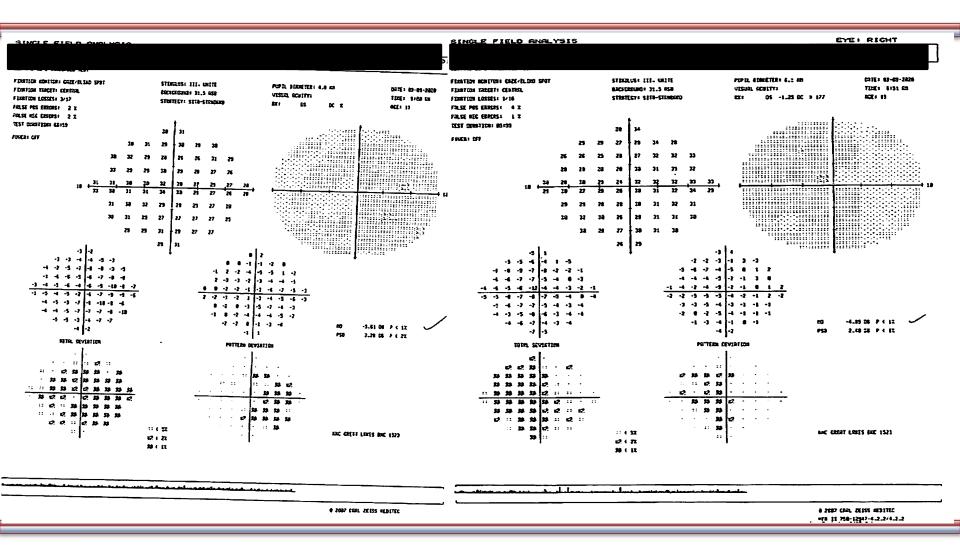
#### 24-2





### **10-2**





### **FAF**





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## Revisit the history



- Adopted
- Overweight
- Born with 6 digits on both hands/feet
- Bardet-Biedl Syndrome
  - ☐ Polydactyly
  - ☐ Truncal obesity
  - ☐ Retinal dystrophy
  - ☐ Progressive loss of vision by early adulthood

#### Consult



- Retinal specialist consult/FANG
- Dx: macular pattern dystrophy
- Recommended mfERG and genetic testing
- WNR for likely progressive retinal dystrophy, reduced BCVA, and central scotomas bilaterally
- ELMS

## DoDI 6130.03—May 2018



- DVA/NVA correctable with spectacles to at least 20/40 in each eye
  - ☐ Currently using MANMED Article 15-35 enlisted standards for waivers:
    - 20/40 in one eye, 20/70 in other eye
    - 20/30 in one eye, 20/100 in other eye
    - 20/20 in one eye, 20/400 in other eye
  - □ DVA/NVA correctable with spectacles to at least 20/20 in each eye is still the MANMED standard for officers.

## **MANMED Future Updates**



■ Low amounts of strabismus (asymptomatic) will not be disqualifying ☐ Same as DoDMERB standards ☐ Most common waiver ■ Adding CCVT to Special Operations Duty (15-105) ☐ Same as aviation □ NSW/diving community <u>already</u> adapted these standards Adding CCVT as an alternate to PIP for general duty standards ☐ Comparable to FALANT passing mild color deficients

# DoD Joint Policy for Keratoconus/CXL—June 2020



- Definition criteria for corneal ectasia/KCN suspect:
   □ Myopic progression of 1D or more/year (MR)
   □ Astigmatism progression of 0.5D or more/year (MR)
   □ More than two changes in contact lens fit in past 6 months
   □ Corneal findings of Fleischer's ring, Vogt's striae, apical thinning/protrusion
   □ Irregular corneal topography/tomography
- Until diagnosis of KCN is confirmed, code as Irregular Astigmatism

# DoD Joint Policy for Keratoconus/CXL—June 2020



- Accession standards
  - ☐ Demonstrate stability for 2 years\* (If s/p CXL, stable for 12 months)
    - No increase in Kmax by more than 1D
    - No increase in cylinder by more than 1D (manifest refraction)
    - No more than 0.5D myopic shift (manifest refraction)
  - Meet vision requirements with spectacles (no CL use for 1 month prior)
  - ☐ Post-CXL CCT must be >400um and Kmax must be <55D

<sup>\*</sup>CNRC is currently waiving this requirement.

# DoD Joint Policy for Keratoconus/CXL—June 2020



- Retention standards
  - ☐ Undergo CXL if medically recommended
  - ☐ Retention decided on case-by-case basis by surgeon with primary criteria being able to perform their duties
  - ☐ MEB only required if unable to meet vision standards and interferes with mission, performance, deployment
- Deployment
  - ☐ Non-deployable for minimum of 6 months s/p CXL

## **Key Takeaways**



- Vision/ocular accession standards ensure the safety of the sailor, their shipmates, and the ship (aircraft, etc.).
- The number of recruits reporting to boot camp with visual disorders and ocular disease has increased with current recruiting waivers.
- Navy Optometrists are instrumental in ensuring sailors are safe to train, meet occupational and deployment requirements, and have optimal visual performance to meet the mission—providing the sight to fight.
- "Vision readiness is mission readiness."

#### References



DOD Instruction 6130.03 Vol. 1. (2018). Medical Standards for Appointment, Enlistment or Induction into the Military Services. https://www.esd.whs.mil/Portals/54/Documents/DD/issuances/dodi/613003p.pdf

DOD Joint Policy for Corneal Ectasia/Keratoconus and Cross-linking (2020). Keratoconus Working Group; Military Refractive Safety and Standards Symposium.

Manual of the Medical Department (NAVMED P-117) Chapter 15. (2015). Physical Examinations and Standards for Enlistment,

Commission and Special Duty. <a href="https://www.med.navy.mil/directives/Documents/NAVMED%20P-">https://www.med.navy.mil/directives/Documents/NAVMED%20P-</a>

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