In the past year and a half that Nicole Kish, OD, has had an Optos Daytona in her Visionworks practice in Norman, Oklahoma, she says it’s been a wonderful practice-builder and educational tool, enabling and assisting in clinical decision-making. “Patients love to see what the inside of their eye looks like,” she says. The ultra-widefield view of the retina provides her with a chance to hone in on an area of the image that concerns her. She has seen retinal lesions in asymptomatic patients. She’s identified patients she has suspected of having undiagnosed diabetes. She’s been able to educate large numbers of patients with diabetes. Her Optos account manager was tremendous in helping the practice staff incorporate the imaging into the pretesting process. Every member of the staff had his or her retinal image captured, so they all had a chance to experience the “wow” factor that patients get.

The Daytona images help with her immediate decision on whether to refer or monitor a patient. optomap® technology makes it easy to detect where the retinal disease process is occurring and if it’s advancing. If another doctor is on when a patient returns, the doctor can compare the image to earlier ones—or Dr. Kish can even pull up the image on her own phone so she can see it. “If I am not in the office and the doctor who is seeing the patient is concerned or has questions about the patient’s image, it can be shared with me instantaneously,” she says. The optomap images also provide stellar documentation. “For instance, with patients with a choroidal nevus, the technology allows me to measure the lesion. When I see that patient again in six months, I can measure very specifically and compare the images, too,” she says. She no longer needs to rely on notes or drawings that she made in the patient’s chart.

The Daytona is a wonderful practice builder, as well. “I can’t tell you how many referrals I’ve received because of this technology. I’m providing patients with a level of education and images of their own eye they’ve never seen.” Dr. Kish has an associate pediatric optometrist who loves the technology for young, wiggly children as well. “Both of us have said we’d never want to practice without it.”

“Every day, I see some kind of disease process that’s occurring. I might not have caught some of these pathologies without using ultra-widefield retinal imaging during a routine vision exam. I’ve become better at detecting subtle signs of disease in the eye now.”

Nicole Kish, OD