

# An Eye on ion

Jason W. Hauck, OD

Marco's ion imaging system redefines slit lamp technology to help image, integrate and educate in seconds.

In the 25 years I've been practicing optometry I have seen a lot of changes in eyecare technology. Imaging has become increasingly valuable in diagnosing and treating pathology, and electronic health records (EHR) have provided a means of storing and accessing that information at a click (or two) of a button. While fundus and slit-

## Comments From the Docs:

"We've been very happy with our ion. We'd heard doctors speak about taking slit lamp pictures with their smartphones, but we'd never been able to do it well. The ion made it so simple. I use it for billable pathology, but also for smooth transitions of care between doctors when we have to hand off a complicated contact lens fit or an eye infection because one of us will be out of the office. That picture attached to their visit in our EHR is so much more descriptive than any note I could write."

—*Kimberly Rosenthal Tinge, OD, Highland, IL*

"The ion is easy to use, and images are crisp and clear. I can mirror an image onto my screen with Airplay to share a problem with a patient. Seeing a problem the way I see it is very helpful in getting the patient to comply with my treatment plan. Easily seeing improvement as the patient continues treatment gives the patient positive reinforcement. Thanks for inventing the ion for me."

—*Dennis DeLee, OD, PC, Chicago, IL*

lamp cameras have long been available, their convenience (or lack thereof) has led me to take fewer pictures than I would have liked. Always on the lookout for more efficient and productive ways of doing things, and a big Apple fan, I was excited to see Marco's ion imaging system's version of a slit-lamp camera using the iPhone 6 Plus to capture, view and transmit images to the medical record.

## SIMPLICITY

About three months ago our practice purchased seven units, and I went to work using it on my patients. With a flip of the beam-splitter lever the camera sees what I'm seeing through the oculars, and with the press of my Marco slit-lamp's joystick button an image is captured. It's as easy as that. Transferring the images to our EHR is fairly simple as well and in time will become even more seamless.

## QUALITY

Because of its ease of use I have taken many more anterior segment photos than I would have otherwise. In fact, I took more photos the first week with my new ion camera than I had the previous year! Want to capture a spastic entropion? Video is also an option. While the ion imaging system excels at photographing anterior segment anomalies, I have used it to photograph pesky floaters as well.



The ion imaging system from Marco has a dedicated app that includes auto storage to the cloud and local network for EHR or PACS integration.

I've even photographed a few retinal problems but prefer a traditional fundus camera for most of those.

## EFFICIENCY

One of the things I've been most surprised with is how helpful this system is in educating my patients. A photograph of a corneal foreign body, worsening cataract or aberrant lashes goes a long way in teaching patients just what is wrong with their eyes.

The ion imaging system, with its ease of use, affordability and image quality has been a great addition to our practice. Add to that its educational benefits and you have a real practice-enhancing tool. OO

*Jason W. Hauck, OD, is in private practice at Dixie Ophthalmic Specialists at Zion Eye Institute in Southern Utah.*

## WHERE TO FIND IT:

Marco  
800.874.5274 | marco.com