

CASE STUDY

DICE (Digital integration of clinical eye examinations)

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INTRODUCTION

A novel data management solution FORUM was introduced to Westmead Hospital Eye clinic in April 2021 to decrease patient monthly waiting time, and improve clinical workflow in the department.

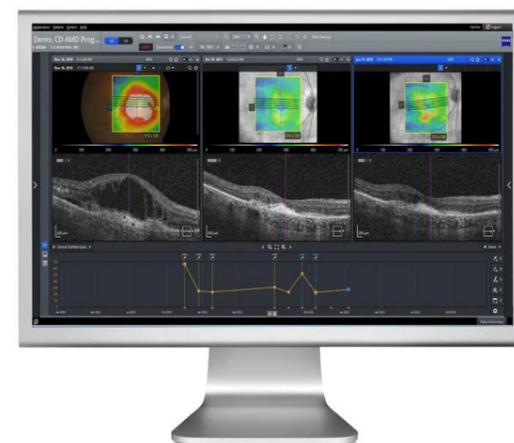


AIMS

Our overarching goal was to decrease monthly patient waiting time by 10%. A secondary objective was to improve clinical workflow by 20% through the integration of a new data management solution.

METHODS

Patient scans dating from 1992 were uploaded into FORUM. This included 25,000 unique patients on the OCT, and 100,000 visual field exams. The implementation of FORUM was the first introduction of an ophthalmic system in a public hospital in Australia to seamlessly integrate with existing hospital medical record applications (such as iPM and Powerchart) to create a model of data storage that is both future proof and scalable to future technological advancements.



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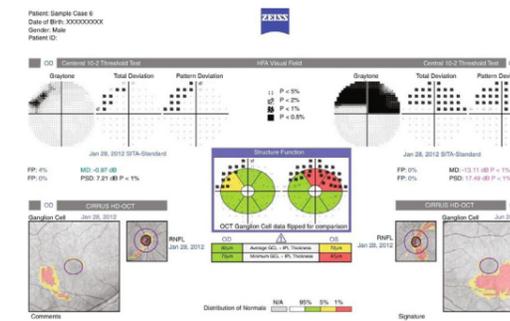
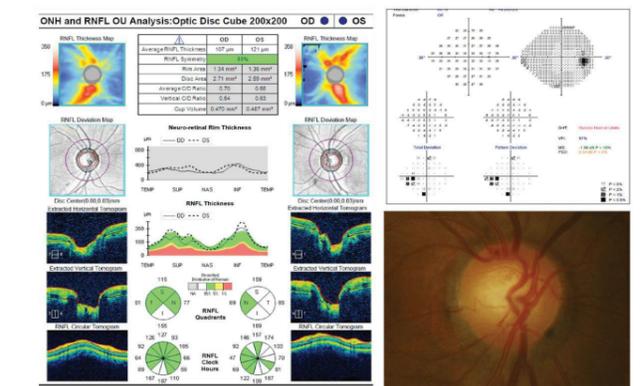


Health
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RESULTS

Due to the introduction of FORUM, medical staff have been granted 47.4hrs/mth to spend with patients. Clinicians were able to save 102.8 hrs/mth on acquisition of scans and 15.8 hrs/mth on printing. This means that the ophthalmologists are now able to make more informed clinical decisions based on the scan results, and detect subtle ophthalmic changes, which would otherwise be missed in a high volume, fast paced environment. This ultimately allows them to specifically tend to the needs of the patient.



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CONCLUSION

Upon the commencement of FORUM, daily clinics have been finishing between 1 to 2 hours earlier. Our patients are able to attend their appointment at the eye clinic in a more streamlined manner, meaning an increased satisfaction for the care they’re provided.

Further benefits to the department include:

- Consumables cost of paper, printer toner and stickers (previously totally \$3,044/month) have been saved.
- 1000 sheets of paper are no longer being sent weekly to Medical Records requiring 1.5 FTE in staff to accommodate the high volume.