# Low Vision Rehabiliation

A workshop



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### **Today's workshop** *Prescribing magnification devices for low vision*

#### Part 1 Examination of the patient with low vision

*History, visual acuity, visual fields, contrast sensitivity, effects of light levels Reading acuity and reading performance* 

Exercise: Determine magnification needs for reading

#### Part 2 Understanding optical aids for magnification

Magnification and Equivalent Viewing Distance (EVD) Spectacles for near vision; Hand-held magnifiers (power and EVD) Stand-magnifiers (image distance, enlargement, EVD) Telescopes (magnification, close-focus, EVD) Video-magnifiers (enlargement, EVD)

Exercise: Measure equivalent power, find image distance, calculate enlargement

#### Part 3 Which magnifiers to prescribe?

Choosing magnifiers that provide the required EVD Consider accommodation, reading glasses, eye-to-magnifier distance Know the optical parameters of your magnifiers

Exercise: Find suitable magnifiers from lists that give the optical parameters



## Part 1 Examination of the patient with low vision

Interview

Case history Learn about the patients visual difficulties and needs Establish goals for treatment

Measure the patient's visual capabilities Acuity, contrast, fields, reading performance, Effects of light Color vision, binocular vision, adaptation, etc.

Decisions about treatment and advice Consider low vision aids

> *improve visual capabilities, reduce patient's problems* Training and counseling

Referral for other rehabilitation services (mobility, daily-living, technology)



## **Case History**

# Standard questionsReasons for the visit?What are your visual problems?

Functional Problems - Distance vision *mobility, faces, TV, signage, audience* 

Functional Problems - Near vision - reading, food, grooming, manipulation

tasks

Effects of lighting

Cause of visual impairment - - history of medical treatment history of low vision care and rehabilitation

Living situation Independence and responsibilities Current and past interests and activities Computer use Mobility and travel Rehabilitation services



# Visual capabilities VISUAL ACUITY





Bailey Lovie Design principles(1976)

The visual task is the same at all size levels Size is the only significant variable from one size level to the next

### REQUIREMENTS

Same number of letters *(or optotypes)* at each size Logarithmic *(constant ratio)* progression of size Spacings proportional to letter size

(between letters and between rows)

Average letter legibility should be the same for each size level





Same magnification *(optical,elargement, viewing distance)* gives the same number of extra rows



# Visual capabilities VISUAL FIELDS



### **Visual Fields**

Peripheral fields

Important for orientation and mobility Search Being aware of objects and activities





Central Fields

Important for Reading Faces Guiding manipulation

Automated perimeter (Humphrey) Best to monitor change



Tangent screen:good for functional central fieldsGoldmann:best for functional peripheral fields

Confrontation: Good for testing extreme periphery



# Visual capabilities CONTRAST SENSITIVITY



### **Contrast Sensitivity**

Important for orientation and mobility being aware of objects and activities textures and shadows and shapes search











# **Reading performance**





### Exercise #1 Finding the Critical Angular Size

5.0M	1 Use Word Reading chart	5.0M Quick
4.0M	2. Position chart at a fixed distance (in good focus)	4.0M Quick
3.2M	Record the viewing distance	3.2M Quick
2.5M	3. Have patient read aloud (or spell out the letters)	2.5M Quick
2.0M		2.0M Slightly slow
1.6M	4. Note when patient's reading to becomes slower	1.6M Slow
1.25M	Record print size	1.25M Very slow
1.00M	5. Note smallest print that patient can just read	1.00M Extremely slow
0.80M	Record the print size	0.80M Impossible
0.63M	#2. Viewing distance = 40 cm = 0.40 m	0.63M Impossible
0.50M	#4 First difficulty 0.40/2.0M	0.50M Impossible
0.40M	#5 Reading acuity 0.40/1.0M	0.40M Impossible
0.32M	Critical angular size (CAS) = $0.40/2.5M$	0.32M
0.25M	= smallest "quick"	0.25M



Part 2 Understanding optical aids for magnification

Magnification and EVD (EVD = Equivalent Viewing Distance)

Plus lens magnifiers (reading glasses, hand held magnifiers) Critical parameter = EQUIVALENT POWER (P<sub>e</sub>)

Stand magnifiers

**Critical parameters** 

IMAGE DISTANCE (v) and ENLARGEMENT RATIO (ER)

Eye-to-image distance is important



# MAGNIFICATION

"Magnification" has many definitions

It is a comparative term

BUT it is rarely obvious what two things are being compared

Do not use MAGNIFICATION

Use Equivalent Viewing Distance



EVD = distance at which the object would subtend the same angle that the image subtends



# Proportional to viewing distance (or EVD) Provided the retinal image is kept in good focus



### Plus lenses Images at infinity EVD = focal length



Hand-Held Magnifers *When image is at infinity* 

EVD = focal length of the lens



## Image sizes depend on the Equivalent Power

Equivalent focal length = distance from focal point to nodal point This is the same in object space and image space





## Measuring the Equivalent Power



### Tan $\theta = h/d = h'/d'$ 1. Measure object distance d and object height h Assume: d = 5 meters, h = 1 meter Ratio = 5:1 2. Measure height of image on screen h' Assume: h' = 20 mm 3. Calculate d' d' = h' x (d/h) = 20mmx(5/1) d'= 100mm Focal length $f \approx d'$ Lens power = 1/d' = 1/0.1m = +10D

# Stand Magnifiers Images are not at infinity

They are at some close distance (usually between 100 cm and 2cm from lens surface)

The image is a fixed location and enlarged

Larger than the object

What are you asking the patient to look at?

Where is the image? (Accommodation demand?)

By how much has it been enlarged?

What is the EVD (what can be resolved?)





# **Stand Magnifiers** EVD = (z-v)/ER



# Finding the image location in Stand magnifiers

How to determine image location in stand magnifiers



1. Close–focus telscope Adjust to focus on image

Do not adjust focus.
 Point telescope towards some object

3. Vary the distance until clear focus Measure the distance



# Calculating the Enlargement Ratio

- 1. Know the Equivalent Power of the Lens  $(P_e)$
- 2. Know the image distance (v)
- 3. Calculate the image divergence V = 1/v (and this is negative)
- 4. Calculate the object vergence U  $U = V-P_e$  and U is also negative because rays are divergent

Enlargement Ratio (ER) =  $U/V = (V-P_e) / V$ 

**EXAMPLE:** Power  $P_e = +20D$ , image distance v = 25 cm So V = -4D

U = -4 - 20 = -24D ER = U/V = (-24)/(-4) = 6x



## Part 3 Deciding which magnifiers to prescribe

### **Optical factors**

EVD Choose a magnifier that provided the required EVD to meet the patient's needs

### Eye-to-image distance

Which eyeglasses should the patient need

### Field of View

Field of view is determined by

the EVD, the lens diameter and the distance to eye

### **Practical factors**

cost, appearance, weight, size, portability, comfort illumination, power source, maintenance



### Determine the EVD

Lens Power  $P_e = + 20 D$ Image distance = 25 cm Enlargement Ratio = 6x Eye-to-lens distance z = 15 cm

Eye-to-image distance = 15 cm + 25 cm = 40 cmEnlargement ratio ER = 6xEVD = Eye-to-image distance / ER =  $40cm / 6_x = 6.67cm$ 



### Paperweight magnifiers dome, hemisphere, bright magnifiers, visolet

### For a hemisphere

Image is in the same plane as the object Enlargement ratio = 1.5 x (refractive index) Not affected by surface curvature

Image is brighter (1.5<sup>2</sup> = 2.25x)

Field of view = diameter / 1.5

Good for children because they can continue to use their close viewing distance





# **Telescopes for Near Vision**



1. Distance telescope with a lens cap Lens cap power  $(P_{cap})$ determines the working distance Example  $P_{cap} = +4.00D$ , WD = 25 cm  $EVD = WD/M_{ts}$ 2. Close-focus telescope (increase length)  $EVD \approx WD/M_{ts}$ More accurately  $EVD = (WD/M_{ts}) - 1$ 





# Video Magnifiers and computer access

### Video magnifiers

Desk models (CCTV) Portable models

### Access technology

Computer based systems Smart modifications of visual displays Smart alternative outputs (speech, tactile)

#### Most important control of visual display

Variable enlargements Reverse contrast Change colors







## Choosing a magnifier that gives the required EVD

Need to make an estimate of how close the eye will be to the magnifier lens Knowing v and ER, can predict EVD, accommodation demand, and field size

	Measured			Predicted Performance						
DEVICE	diam	Р	V	ER	z= 10 cm			z=2.5 cm		
	mm	D	cm	cm	EVD	eye/im	FoV	EVD	eye/im	FoV
Eschenbach 1557	30	46.8	38.6	19.1	2.6	48.6	8	2.2	41.1	26
Eschenbach 1550	35	37.5	34.2	13.8	3.2	44.2	11	2.7	36.7	37
Eschenbach 1551	35	27.2	31.5	9.6	4.3	41.5	15	3.5	34.0	50
Eschenbach 1552	47	21.8	28.5	7.2	5.3	38.5	25	4.3	31.0	81
Eschenbach 1553	55	17.8	22.1	4.9	6.5	32.1	36	5.0	24.6	110
Eschenbach 1525	50	16.7	13.3	3.2	7.2	23.3	36	4.9	15.8	98
Eschenbach 1554	65	14.9	18.9	3.8	7.6	28.9	49	5.6	21.4	146

The "Berkeley Yellow Pages"



# Thank you

# **Muchas gracias**



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