

ALLEGRETTO WAVE™

Right. From the Start.

Spend More Surgeon Time – Doing Surgery

Kim Robbins, MD of Robbins Eye Center in Bridgeport CT was frustrated. She had just returned from another laser platform's user meeting. "They explained the price of having better technology was having to spend more time working at it – that we needed to spend more time in clinic laboring over wavefront maps. But that just didn't sit right. Why does better technology require me to work at it? Technology should enhance my efforts, not prolong them. That's when I decided to make the switch. Allegretto Wave is proof that more surgeon time is not required to deliver better outcomes. Surgeon time is better spent doing surgery."

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– Kim Robbins, MD

With the advent of wavefront LASIK, many refractive MDs find themselves as frustrated as Dr. Robbins. More and more are asking the critical questions:

- > "Must wavefront technology slow the pace of our pre-operative exams?"
- > "Do we need to reduce surgical flow from our traditional LASIK pace?"
- > "Must we repeatedly fudge or force-fit wavefront scans to develop a treatment profile?"
- > "Is wavefront LASIK introducing new variables in the manual refracting methodology – rather than removing them?"

With the Allegretto Wave, many surgeons have found the answer to each of these questions to be a resounding "No!". Wavefront-optimized LASIK can improve patient outcomes. And it can be done without spending additional pre-op time or compromising surgical flow. This case report will examine one of the key reasons many surgeons made the switch to Allegretto Wave – the ability to spend more surgeon time doing surgery.

Simplified Workups

"Educated patients are asking about wavefront," says George Fava, MD of Fava and Maria Eye Associates in Pennsylvania. It was something we needed to offer to remain on the cutting edge. But while I'd been happy with traditional treatments on my old platform, I was very frustrated with their custom procedure. We had to take so many courses, each with incremental costs. Then our pre-op time stretched out trying to capture the scans. We needed to massage the information to get to a treatment plan. Allegretto Wave simplifies everything. I have two of the greatest refractionists in the state, and I can plug their numbers in and fly. I am so grateful to be able to offer this technology."

Dr. Robbins found her switch to Allegretto Wave allowed her to double the number of pre-op evaluations she could perform in a day. "We used to schedule 6-8 evals per day. This visit is 2 hours long and we were spending 45 minutes of that time trying to capture a wavefront scan. Now if we can't get the image in 3 minutes, we move on. I'm able to schedule 12 pre-operative evaluations per day, with much less staff frustration."

Simplified Surgical Planning

Dr. Robbins also noted a significant change in her surgical planning requirements. “Prior to surgery, I was spending 10-15 minutes per chart, often with 15 charts per surgery day, looking at wavefront scans and trying to sort out the good ones. And that’s not counting the time my ODs had already spent doing the exact same thing.”

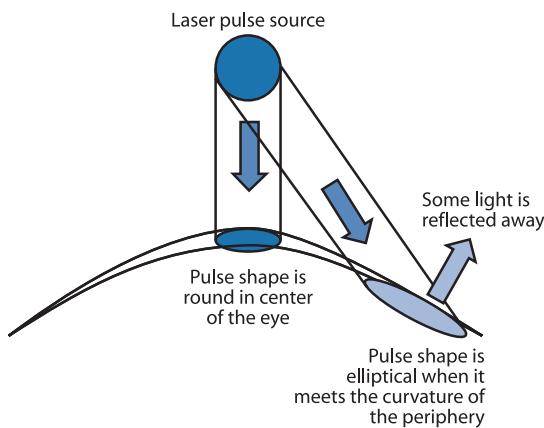
This subjective evaluation bothered other refractive surgeons as well. Dr. Asim Piracha of the John-Kenyon Eye Center in Louisville, KY says, “It was counter-intuitive. We were forcing our patients to fit into the wavefront treatment. We would do the scan and the refraction, and then be forced to pick two that were close. It was entirely too unreliable. And after spending all of that time, we found that a significant number of these patients didn’t fall within the wavefront treatment parameters.”

Dr. Avery Alexander of Alexander Eye Institute noted similar problems. “I found wavefront scans of my prior platform to be unreliable. The manufacturer says to capture the wavefront. Do it a few times. Then compare those scans to the refraction. If they are within 0.50D, then you can use the information. But a system that is verified to the refraction is only as good as the refraction. Wavefront accuracy should be second to none – and we were being asked to use the aberrometer, essentially, as an auto-refractor. This wasn’t optimizing patient results, and pushed me away from that platform.”

Wavefront Optimized Treatments

Dr. Piracha says, “I think we’ve learned now that improved LASIK results are not about measuring the pre-operative wavefront aberrations, but about preventing the induction of these aberrations. By utilizing a system that adjusts for the Cosign Effect – the further away from the center of treatment you go, the less energy will be applied – we have improved results. Either we add energy to the periphery, or we will induce spherical aberration. This is why I adopted the Allegretto Wave system. I was attracted to the improved vision demonstrated by a prolate cornea. The more prolate – the better depth of focus, the better quality of vision. The Allegretto Wave maintains the cornea’s natural shape, and delivers better vision.”

Doyle Stulting, MD of Emory Laser Vision notes, “What wavefront systems are providing are peripheral treatments so that you don’t induce aberrations. 99% of people walking into our center don’t have wavefront aberrations. They just need inductions prevented. We can now handle that requirement without dilating, without extra technician time and ultimately, without extra cost. The whole process is better for the patient, and easier for the staff.”



Fully Integrated Laser System

Dr. Farooq Ashraf of the Atlanta Vision Institute in Atlanta, GA had been using another excimer laser system before transitioning to the Allegretto Wave. “My initial frustration was with humidity control in my laser suite. I practice in a very humid part of the country, and found the room humidity to be all over the place. I needed a laser system that was not so temperamental. The attraction of Allegretto Wave was a sealed-energy system so that the temperature and humidity would not alter my results. I found that from an engineering standpoint, this laser was unbelievable. From the flying spot beam, to the faster frequency, and the integrated components such as the aspirator and slit lamp, it offered me features I had not had before.”

“With my old system, the custom laser treatment time was horrendous. I might have had a three minute treatment time. The variability this introduced into my results was just unacceptable. The Allegretto results are simply more consistent than my prior platform. Refractive surgery is all about decreasing variables – that is one way you improve results. I’ve done that with my technique, and wanted the same from my laser. Allegretto Wave provided this improvement.”

Wavefront-optimized technology can allow a refractive surgeon to spend more time doing what they’re expert at – performing surgery. Simplified pre-op testing, accurate and straightforward surgical planning, and a sophisticated treatment delivery that minimizes variability. That is what Allegretto Wave provides.