

Visual and Refractive Efficacy of Panoptix Toric Intraocular Lens in a Clinical Setting

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Purpose: Trifocal Intraocular Lenses (IOLs) were developed to provide patients with effective near, intermediate and distance vision, thus minimizing spectacle dependency. Residual astigmatism has previously been shown to impact unaided visual acuity across all distances; therefore, to optimise the expected outcomes, consideration of preoperative corneal astigmatism is essential. The purpose of this study was to provide a real-world, multi-site review of visual and refractive outcomes in eyes undergoing implantation with the Panoptix Trifocal toric IOL platform.

Patients and Methods: This study represents a two-fold approach. Patients who had previously undergone routine cataract removal and IOL insertion with the Panoptix Toric IOL were retrospectively analysed for routine efficacy and safety endpoints (“Retrospective Cohort”). Data was retrieved from the preoperative, surgical and postoperative visits (range 2–6 weeks). A further subset of patients undergoing lens removal and bilateral Panoptix Toric IOL insertion were identified at surgery (“Qualitative Cohort”). These patients underwent additional testing inclusive of quality of vision questionnaire and bilateral defocus curve.

Results: A total of 466 eyes of 254 patients were included in the retrospective cohort. Between 91% and 98% of eyes, respectively, were within 0.50D and 1.00D of target. Mean absolute difference from Spherical Equivalent (SE) target was 0.22 ± 0.24 Ds. Following surgery, 94% of eyes demonstrated a refractive astigmatism of 0.50D or less. Further, 61% eyes achieved uncorrected distance visual acuity (UDVA) of 20/20 or better, increasing to 94% achieving 20/32 or better. Seventy percent of eyes unilaterally achieved N5 unaided and 66.0% achieved N8 or better at intermediate. In the qualitative cohort, no patient described any symptom as significant or requested explant.

Conclusion: In a real-world setting, the PanOptix toric trifocal IOL continues to demonstrate refractive accuracy and good visual performance at all focal distances. This IOL also exhibited good quality of vision, with minimally bothersome visual disturbances or photic phenomena.

Keywords: cataract surgery, IOL, trifocal, lens extraction, visual acuity

Introduction

Cataract surgery is one of the most common surgical procedures.¹ Cumulative experience and continued technological advances have succeeded in making cataract surgery a highly efficacious procedure with excellent refractive and visual outcomes.² Accordingly, patient expectations have increased with many patients now expecting spectacle independence following surgery. Monofocal intraocular lenses (IOL) provide excellent visual quality at a fixed focal length, however patients routinely require reading prescription for near activities.^{3,4} Comparatively, the trifocal IOL was developed to provide patients with effective near, intermediate and distance vision, thus minimizing spectacle dependency.^{3,5}

To achieve the best possible visual outcomes postoperatively regardless of IOL technology, correction of preoperative refractive error, including corneal astigmatism is essential. Corneal astigmatism is common in patients undergoing cataract surgery, and residual postoperative astigmatism will impact unaided visual acuity at all distances and lead to

suboptimal outcomes.^{6,7} Postoperative refractive astigmatism is poorly tolerated when multi or trifocal IOLs are used. Astigmatism may be corrected through limbal relaxing incisions or with the aid of a toric IOL.⁸ With the introduction of toric trifocal IOLs, surgeons are now able to restore a patient's vision at a range of focal distances, whilst also treating any pre-existing astigmatism.

The aim of our study was to retrospectively investigate the visual and refractive outcomes of the Alcon PanOptix toric trifocal lens in a large, multi-surgeon cohort. A secondary aim in a smaller targeted cohort, was to assess the range of unaided vision and the quality of vision using the toric IOL.

Materials and Methods

This study represents a two-fold approach. Data from patients who had previously undergone routine cataract removal and IOL insertion with the Panoptix Toric IOL (Alcon Labs, Ft. Worth TX, USA) were retrospectively collected and analysed for routine efficacy and safety endpoints ("Retrospective Cohort"). Data was retrieved from the preoperative, surgical and 1-month postoperative visits (range 2–6 weeks). A further subset of patients undergoing lens removal and bilateral Panoptix Toric IOL insertion were identified at surgery ("Qualitative Cohort"). Following consent, these patients underwent additional testing at 3 months post-surgery including quality of vision questionnaire and bilateral defocus assessment. Standard visual and refraction outcomes were also measured.

Inclusion criteria for both studies were the use of a Panoptix Trifocal IOL. Exclusion criteria were not applied to limit the cohort; however, each surgeon applied their own criteria to initially selecting the IOL as appropriate to the patient. The presence of mild-to-moderate ocular pathology, limiting potential postoperative corrected visual acuity, represented a general exclusion criterion for Panoptix IOL insertion. This may have excluded patients with prior refractive surgery, significant dry eye and concurrent ocular disease such as macular degeneration or glaucoma. The VERION system (Alcon, Fort Worth, TX) was used for eye registration and used to guide toric IOL alignment. Postoperatively, unaided near vision was routinely measured at 33cm across all sites; however, intermediate vision distance varied according to patient working distance (between 40cm to 80cm).

The prospective cohort study was assessed and approved by an external Human Research Ethics Committee (University of Sydney HREC No. 2019/517). The retrospective study was approved by the institutional Low and Negligible Risk committee. All patient information remained deidentified and the study complied with the Tenets of the Declaration of Helsinki.

Deidentified data was collected and stored in an Excel spreadsheet prior to analysis with SPSS (V24. IBM, Chicago IL, USA). Standard demographic variables were collated (mean, standard deviation and range) for visual and refractive parameters. Vector analysis as described by Thibos was used to understand the impact on the retrospective cohort.⁹

Results

Four hundred and sixty-six eyes of 254 consecutive patients undergoing Panoptix Toric IOL insertion were analysed. Overall, the mean age of patients was 67.9 ± 10.4 years (range 36 to 101 years) with 53.9% of the cohort female. The preoperative demographic data is listed in [Table 1](#). With respect to astigmatic orientation, 73.5% of eyes exhibited "with the rule" astigmatism, 13.8% "against the rule" astigmatism and 12.7% considered "oblique". The majority of eyes received a lower power toric IOL (TFNT2, 68.3%).

The postoperative refractive outcomes of the retrospective cohort are listed in [Table 2](#). Reflecting these values, 91% and 98% of eyes, respectively, were within 0.50D and 1.00D of the spherical equivalent (SE) target refraction ([Figure 1](#)). The mean arithmetic difference from SE target was 0.02 ± 0.32 Ds (range -1.91 to 1.37Ds) and mean absolute difference from SE target was 0.22 ± 0.24 Ds.

Refractive astigmatism was recorded preoperatively and at 1-month post-surgery ([Figure 2](#)). Preoperatively, the majority of eyes (80%) had 1.00D or less of refractive astigmatism. Following surgery, 94% of all eyes demonstrated a refractive astigmatism of 0.50D or less ([Figure 2](#)). There was no statistically significant difference in terms of astigmatism direction and final magnitude of refractive cylinder. Vector analysis was undertaken and reported ([Figure 3](#)). The increased concentration of data points around the origin reflect an overall improvement following surgery. The difference between J0 Vectors between surgery was not clinically significant; however, the reduction in J45 values from pre- to post-surgery reached

Table 1 Preoperative Demographics

Variable (N = 466)	Mean (SD)	Range
Preoperative Sphere	1.80 (1.84)	-7.00 to +8.50Ds
Preoperative Cylinder	-0.73 (0.72)	-4.50 to 0.00Ds
Preoperative Spherical Equivalent (SE)	1.43 (1.77)	-7.00 to +8.25Ds
Axial Length	23.04 (0.93)	21.12 to 27.06mm
Preoperative Anterior Chamber Depth	3.09 (0.34)	2.34 to 4.59mm
Mean Keratometry	43.63 (1.46)	39.91 to 49.00D
Corneal Cylinder	0.85 (0.61)	0.00 to 3.85D

Table 2 Postoperative Outcomes

Variable (N = 466)	Mean (SD)	Range
Postoperative Sphere	0.09 (0.32)	-1.50 to 1.25Ds
Postoperative Cylinder	-0.16 (0.27)	-1.50 to 0.00Ds
Postoperative Spherical Equivalent (SE)	0.01 (0.31)	-1.75 to 1.25Ds

statistical significance ($p = 0.043$). Vector analysis values are listed in Table 3. Figure 4 identifies the visual acuity outcomes. Almost half (47%) of eyes in the retrospective cohort had preoperative corrected distance visual acuity of 20/20 highlighting a broader refractive group (Figure 4). Postoperatively, 61% of patients achieved an uncorrected distance visual acuity

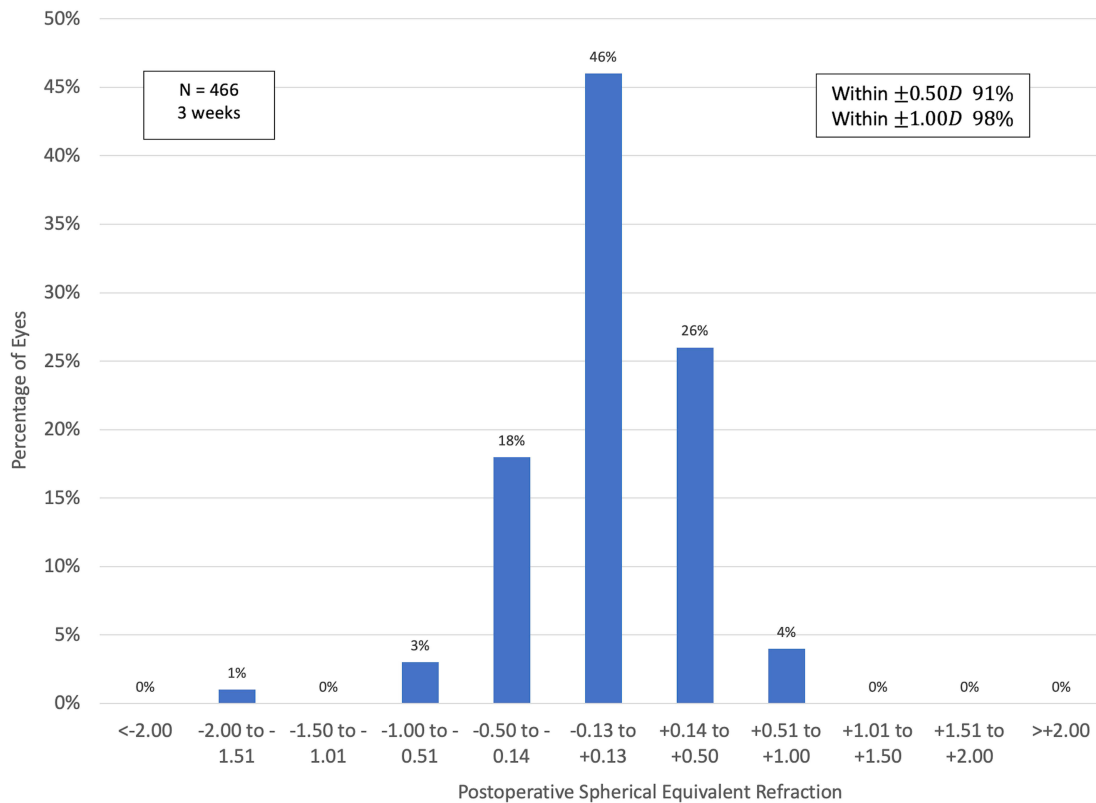


Figure 1 Spherical equivalent refractive accuracy.

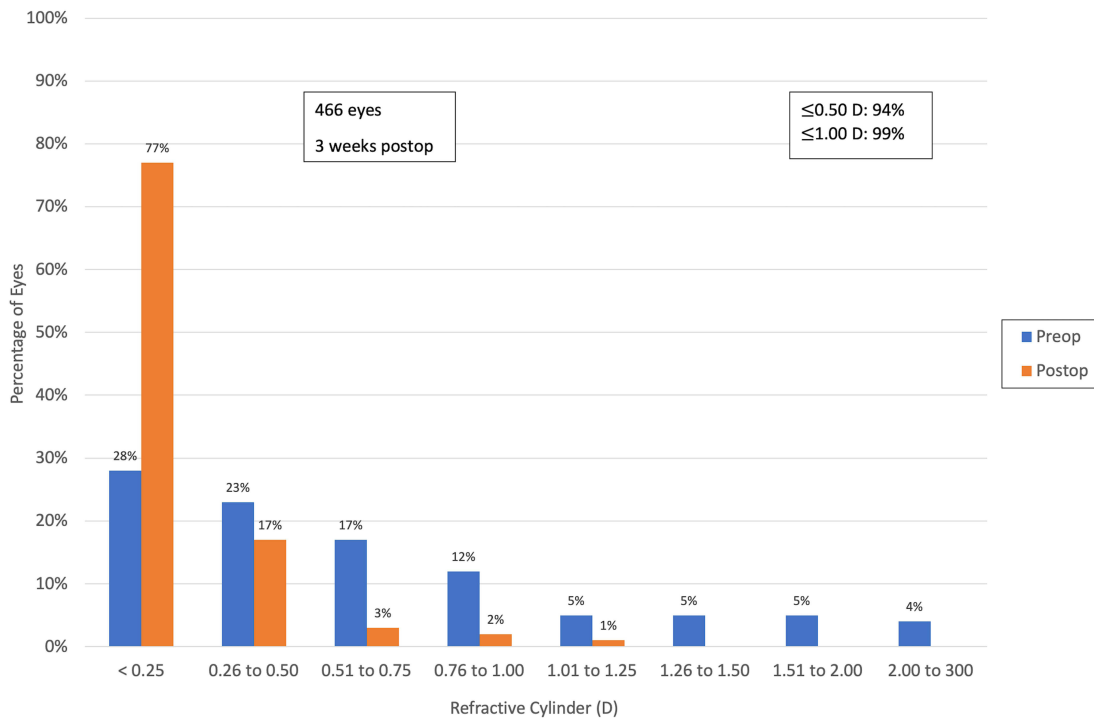


Figure 2 Refractive astigmatism pre- and post-surgery.

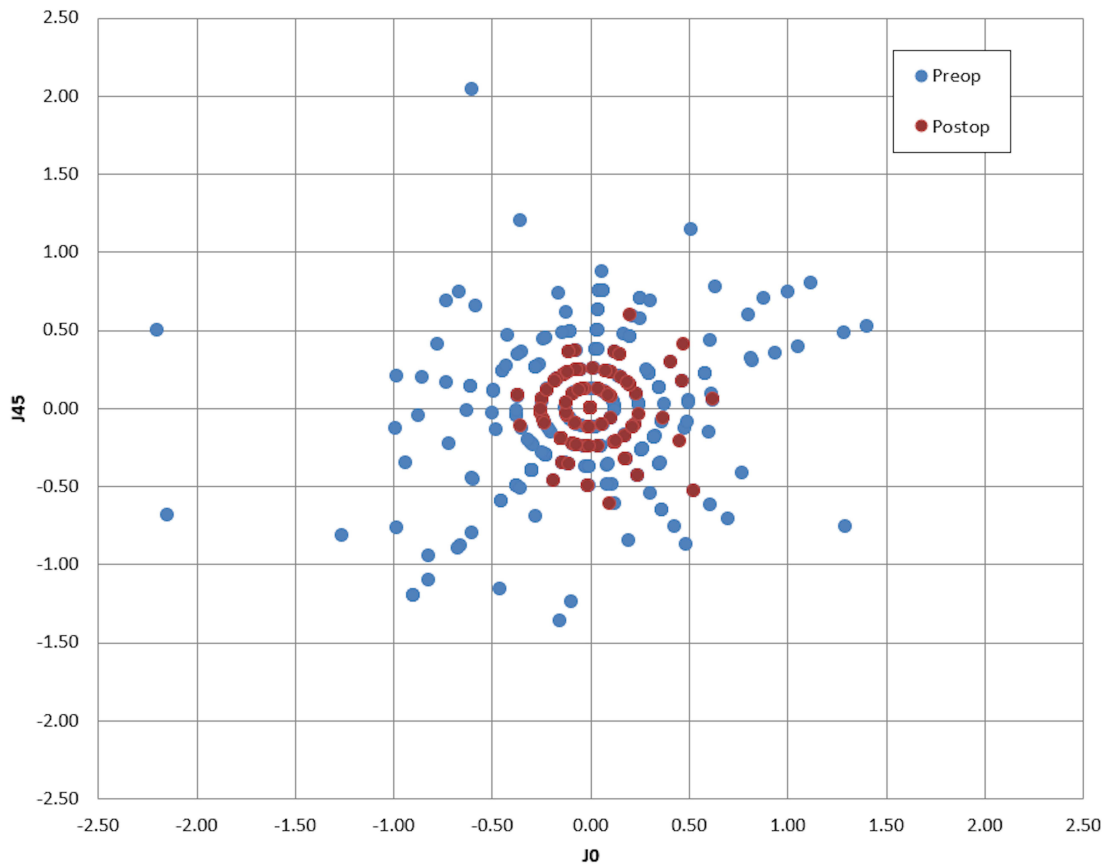


Figure 3 Vector analysis pre- and post-surgery. (J0 = power of Jackson crossed cylinder with axes at 90 degrees and 180 degrees; J45 = power of Jackson crossed cylinder J45 with axes at 45 degrees and 135 degrees; B_v = overall blur strength of a spherocylindrical lens).

Table 3 Mean Preoperative and Postoperative Astigmatic Outcomes

Variable (n = 466)	Mean (SD)	Range	Significance
Preop J0	-0.02 (0.36)	-2.20 to 1.41	0.231
Postop J0	0.00 (0.10)	-0.37 to 0.62	
Preop J45	-0.03 (0.37)	-1.37 to 2.04	0.043*
Postop J45	0.00 (0.12)	-0.62 to 0.59	
Preop B	1.95 (1.28)	0.00 to 8.25	<0.01**
Postop B	0.20 (0.29)	0.00 to 1.77	

Notes: * $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$. J0 = power of Jackson crossed cylinder with axes at 90 degrees and 180 degrees; J45 = power of Jackson crossed cylinder J45 with axes at 45 degrees and 135 degrees; B, = overall blur strength of a spherocylindrical lens.

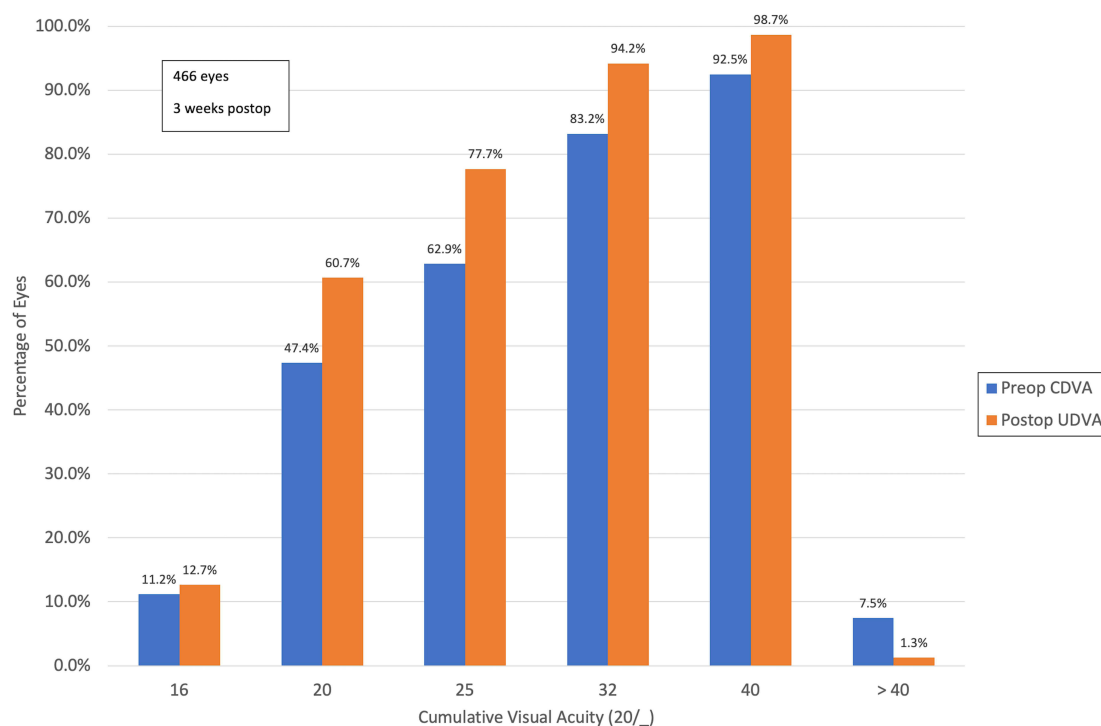
(UDVA) of 20/20 or better, increasing to 94% achieving 20/32 or better. Seventy percent of eyes unilaterally achieved N5 unaided at near whilst 66.0% achieved N8 or better at intermediate distance (Figure 5).

No intraoperative complications were recorded and at follow-up (1 month), no patient had undergone secondary procedures including laser refractive surgery, IOL removal or rotation, nor YAG laser for posterior capsular opacification. No cystoid macular edema was reported.

Qualitative Cohort

Preoperative and postoperative refractive data for the qualitative cohort are demonstrated in Table 4. These outcomes match the broader retrospective data at both timepoints.

Figure 6 demonstrates the percentage of patients that experienced photic conditions following the PanOptix toric IOL procedure within this cohort. Practically, patients were required to identify the frequency and severity of photic

**Figure 4** Cumulative visual acuity.

Abbreviations: CDVA, corrected distance visual acuity; UDVA, uncorrected distance visual acuity.

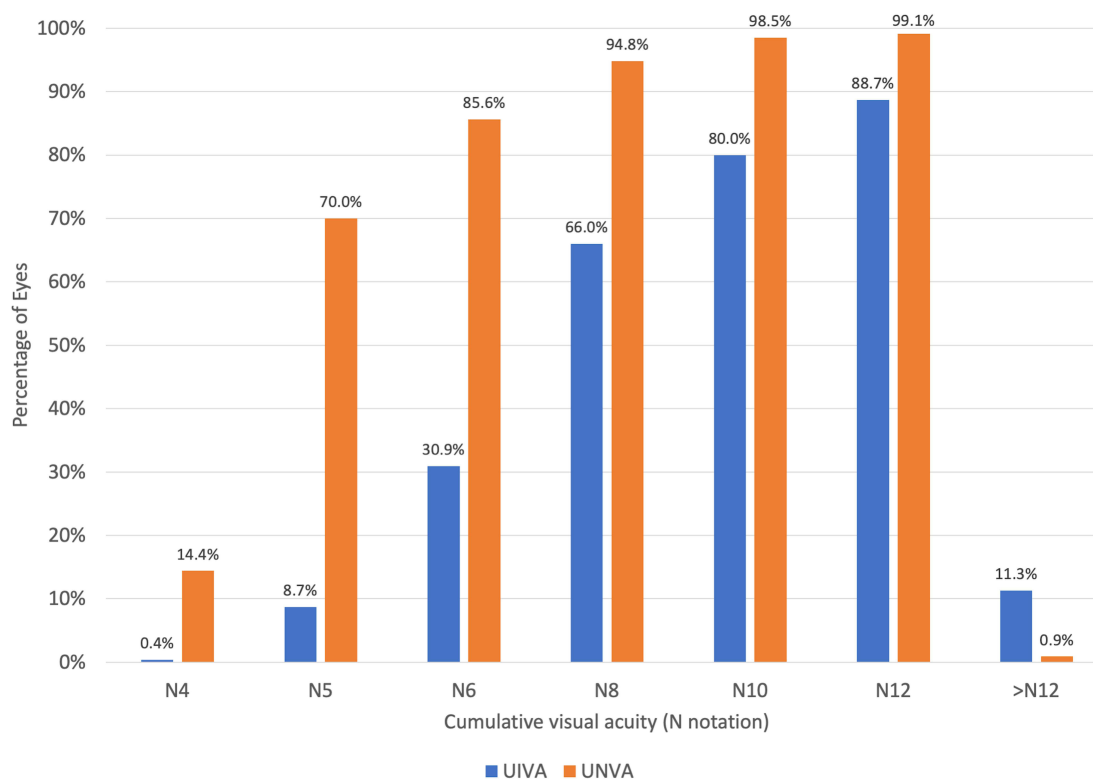


Figure 5 Cumulative intermediate and near visual acuity.

Abbreviations: UIVA, uncorrected intermediate visual acuity, UNVA, uncorrected near visual acuity.

occurrences, as well as how bothersome they were in nature. The respective answers are listed in Figure 7. Two (9.1%) and four patients (18.2%), respectively, described haloes and glare as severe; however, only two of these patients were “bothered quite a bit” by these symptoms. Neither patient requested explant of the IOL. No patient described any symptoms as significant (“very much bothersome”).

Additional Symptoms

One patient within the qualitative cohort commented that they felt they had to “refocus” at distance. The patient was 20/20 unaided in each eye at the final postoperative visit and achieved N6 and N4 unaided at intermediate and near, respectively. A further patient described “a film over the eye”, “flickering lights” and a “shadow”. This patient had a prior central retinal vein occlusion (CRVO) and the symptoms were unchanged from prior to surgery.

Bilateral Defocus Curve

Binocular corrected visual acuity for each defocus step is demonstrated in Figure 8. The Panoptix lens achieved good visual acuity across all distances. Mean visual acuity was greater than 0.1 LogMar were observed for defocus levels between $-2.50D$ to $+1.00D$ with the exception of $-1.00D$ and $-0.50D$ steps.

Table 4 Qualitative Cohort Refractive Outcomes (N = 22 Patients)

(N = 44 Eyes)	Preoperative	Postoperative
Sphere	$2.01 \pm 1.31Ds$	$0.16 \pm 0.20Ds$
Cylinder	$-0.78 \pm 0.51Ds$	$-0.19 \pm 0.22Ds$
Spherical Equivalent	$1.63 \pm 1.23Ds$	$0.06 \pm 0.16Ds$

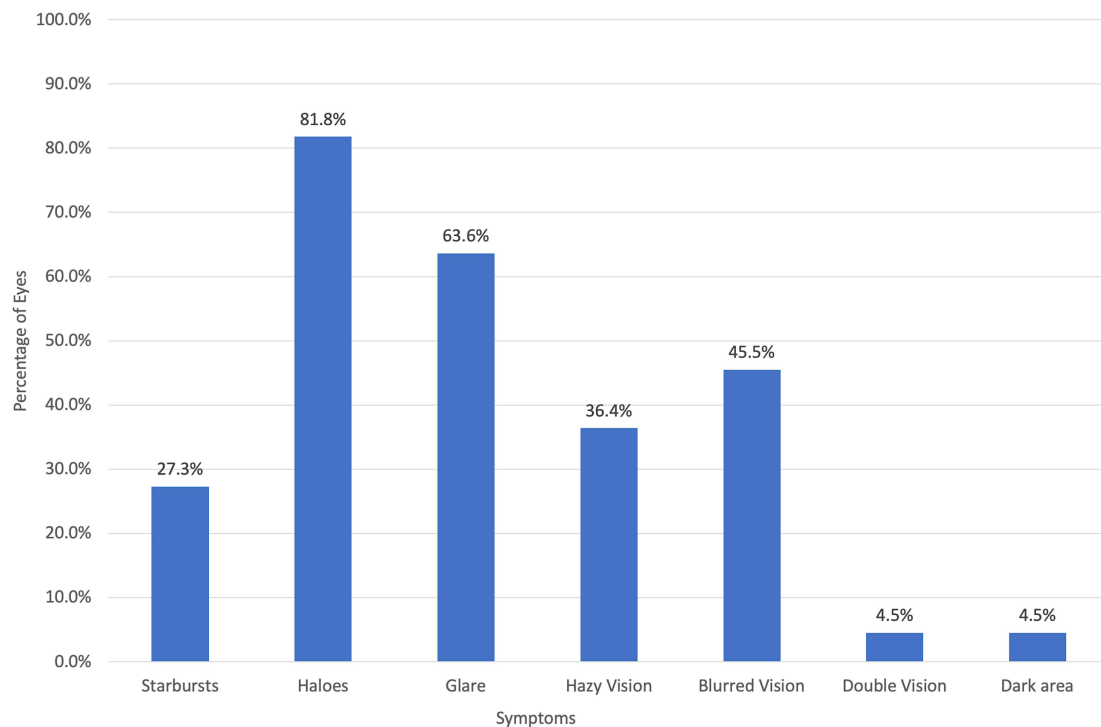


Figure 6 Postoperative photic symptom breakdown.

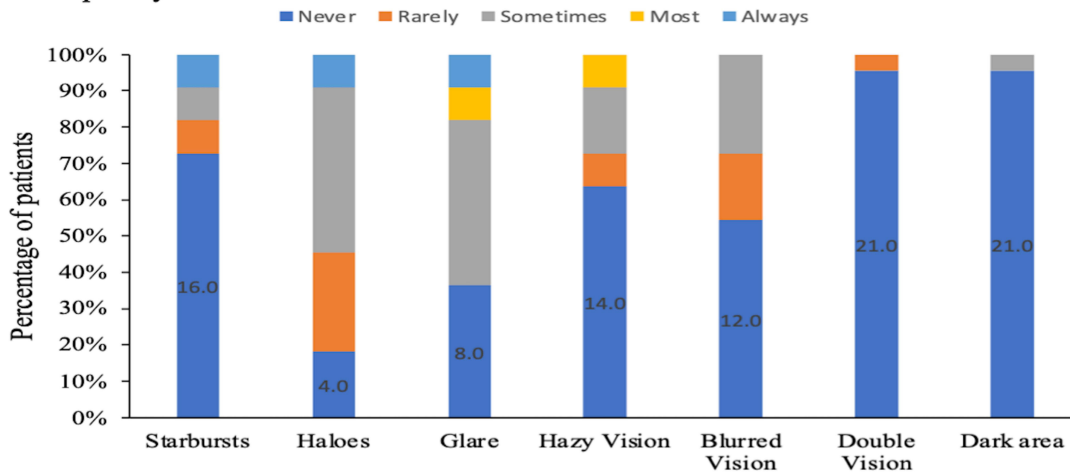
Discussion

IOL choice at surgery will be dependent on a range of considerations including general ocular health, predicted postoperative visual acuity and both patient lifestyle and expectations. Monofocal IOLs provide excellent visual acuity and quality for the desired focal length; however, patients will require optical aids to assist vision at other distances. Extended depth of focus (EDOF) IOLs expand the range of good uncorrected vision to include practical intermediate vision and trifocal IOLs, such as the PanOptix IOL, aim to provide unaided visual acuity at all distances and give the best opportunity for spectacle independence across all activities.¹⁰ Regardless of IOL type, the presence of residual refractive astigmatism will impact unaided visual acuity and therefore reduce both quality of vision and patient satisfaction.^{11,12} Accordingly, incorporating a toric component to the respective IOLs to minimise astigmatic error following surgery has been shown to increase efficacy and satisfaction of surgery.¹³

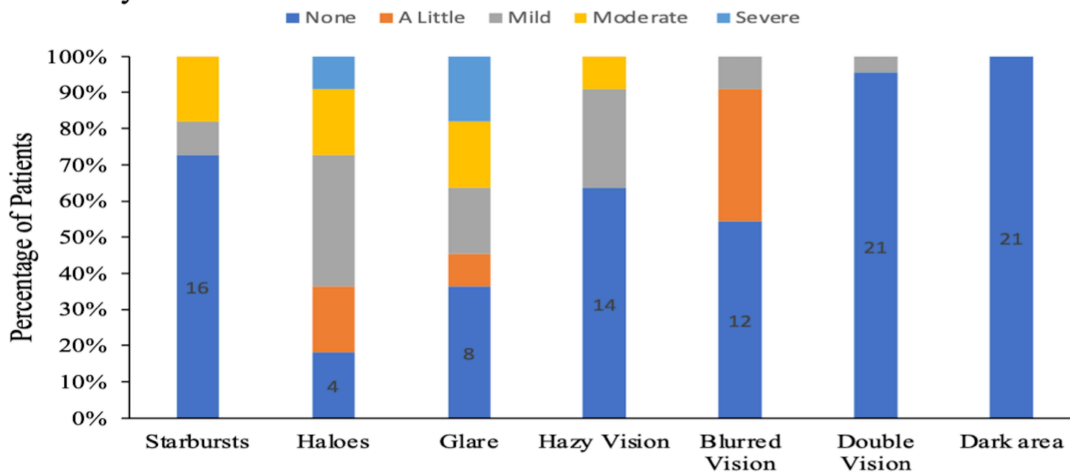
This retrospective analysis represents the largest current, real-world cohort of patients undergoing PanOptix Trifocal IOL implantation with the toric platform. The mean residual astigmatic error in the broader study was $-0.16 \pm 0.27D$ with 94% indicating cylinder $\leq 0.5D$. In 50 eyes, Kohnen et al found 96% of eyes achieving similar outcomes.¹⁴ Of interest, in a comparison between 200 toric and 500 non-toric PanOptix IOL eyes, Curreno and co-authors found a significant difference in residual mean error ($0.28 \pm 0.23D$ vs $0.42 \pm 0.29D$ in toric and non-toric eyes, respectively) and subsequent percentage of eyes achieving residual error less than 0.5D (94% vs 81%).¹⁵ This study highlights the potential improvement in refractive astigmatic outcomes for toric IOLs against non-toric IOLs; however, the study did not mention preoperative mean or range values for both cohorts. Of note, the majority of eyes (68.2%) in the retrospective study required low power (T2) toric correction reflecting larger demographic cohort studies which suggest approximately 80% of eyes will have refractive astigmatism less than 1D. This may further be reflected in the relatively minimal change in astigmatic vectors pre- and post-surgery, albeit there maintained a reduction in all parameters.

The visual outcomes match current literature in smaller, targeted cohorts with 61% of all eyes achieving an UDVA of 20/20 or better increasing to 94.2% achieving 20/30 or better. Kohnen et al described 68% of 50 eyes with the PanOptix toric IOL achieving 20/20.¹⁴ Similarly, Carreno and co-authors in 200 Panoptix Toric eyes did not report unilateral unaided visual acuity breakdown however the authors did show mean uncorrected binocular vision at 4 meters of -0.08

A Frequency



B Severity



C Bothersome

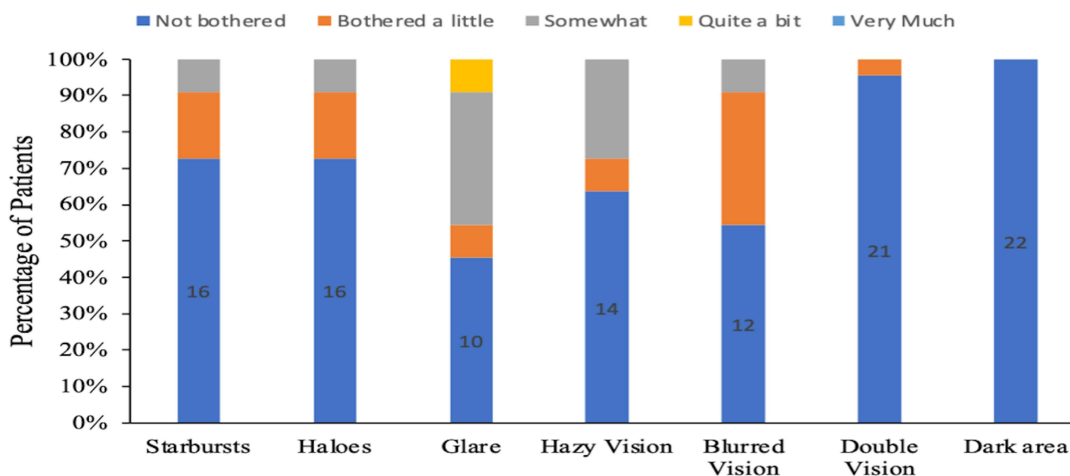


Figure 7 Symptom breakdown by intensity ((A) = Frequency; (B) = Severity; (C) = Bothersome).

LogMAR (approximately 20/16) indicating excellent summation of unaided vision in their cohort. Further, 94.8% and 66% of eyes achieved N8 (approximately 20/40) or better at near and intermediate respectively.¹⁵ Donmez et al in 79 eyes indicated all eyes achieving 20/40 or better for both near and intermediate distances.¹⁶ Kohnen et al similarly

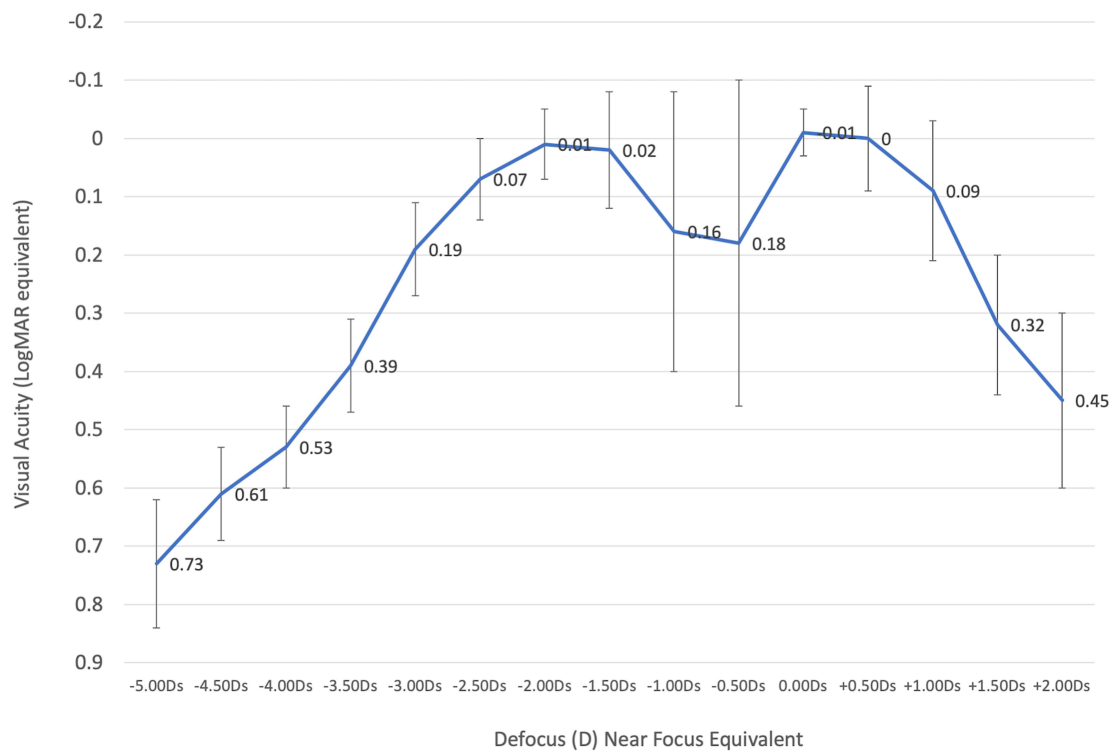


Figure 8 Defocus curve for qualitative cohort. Optimal peaks occurred at -2.00Ds and 0.00Ds points.

describe all eyes achieving this level of uncorrected near and intermediate visual acuity in their small cohort.¹⁴ In the absence of significant differences in residual refractive error between cohorts, the difference at intermediate for our retrospective study is likely to reflect the variation across postoperative visit and assessment distance within the practices. Rosa et al previously highlighted the neuroadaptation process for multifocal IOLs.¹⁷ Our findings may suggest that extending the postoperative review visit to minimum 4 weeks may provide an opportunity for better unaided near vision, a finding supported through the smaller prospective study which assessed patients at 3 months and found comparatively improved outcomes for both near and intermediate vision. The assessment distance for intermediate visual acuity was variable across the retrospective study and appeared to reflect a combination of patient habits or preference and work-related distances. The variation represents a limitation of our retrospective study but does likely reflect routine practice. Although not identified in the broader study, understanding spectacle independence provides a practical measure of IOL functionality and therefore most reflective of functional surgery outcomes. Notably, existing PanOptix Toric IOL cohort studies identify between 80% and 94.8% of patients achieving spectacle independence following surgery.^{14–19} All findings within the retrospective study reflect a unilateral outcome. Given bilateral summation, it would be reasonably expected that binocular outcomes will also result in improved outcomes at all distances and would reflect real-world practice.

Defocus curves simulate visual performance at a range of distances and provide a further analysis of functionality of the trifocal IOL. Albeit in a smaller cohort, the prospective PanOptix Toric study achieved good vision at near, intermediate and distance intervals, exceeding 20/30 at all distances which remains broadly comparable to findings in other PanOptix Toric cohorts and confirms the extended range of the IOL.^{20–22}

One commonly reported issue with the trifocal IOL is the presence of photic phenomena, which varies with different trifocal IOL designs.^{22,23} Based on our questionnaire, the most frequent and severe phenomena were starbursts, haloes and glare. The impact of the phenomena on daily activities is of equal importance however and the responses indicated only glare was described to be “quite a bit” bothersome (2 patients), suggesting that phenomena is not a debilitating issue in the motivated, PanOptix IOL patient. As previous studies have highlighted the incidence of photic phenomena will

decrease over time, likely due to the neuroadaptation process, we expect this to continue to resolve further matching the anecdotal findings of the larger retrospective cohort.^{14,24}

The main component of the study was retrospective in nature which limits the investigation of the findings, in particular toric IOL axis alignment was not recorded which may have provided greater awareness of findings of residual astigmatism. The group does, however, currently represent the largest combined cohort of Toric Panoptix patients within the literature. Our qualitative sub-group outcomes do support the anecdotal findings of the retrospective cohort and together provide a helpful snapshot for surgeons considering treating patients with pre-existing astigmatism who may be interested in achieving full independence from optical aids.

Conclusion

To conclude, the PanOptix toric trifocal IOL demonstrated precision to target good visual performance at all focal distances. Although the majority of patients noticed photic phenomena through the postoperative period, the IOL appeared to exhibit good quality of vision, with minimally bothersome visual disturbances.

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Disclosure

Dr Lewis Levitz reports grants from Alcon, during the conduct of the study. Dr Uday Bhatt reports grants from Alcon, non-financial support from Acufocus, during the conduct of the study; grants, non-financial support from Alcon, grants from Acufocus, outside the submitted work. Professor Timothy V Roberts reports grants from Alcon, during the conduct of the study. Dr Chris Hodge reports grants from Alcon, during the conduct of the study. The authors report no other conflicts of interest in this work.

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