

optomap® | PATIENT STORY DR. DAVID RICHARDSON

In May 2015, Dr. David Richardson, unexpectedly found himself in the role of patient when he was being imaged during a demonstration of **optomap** technology. An Optos representative had planned on bringing a device to the Hattiesburg Eye Clinic Cataract & iLASIK Surgery Center at the end of May, but decided to make an impromptu visit. This premature and unplanned visit turned out to be a life-saving event.

When they reviewed the inaugural digital image, Richardson refused to believe that it was an image of his eye, as it revealed hemorrhaging that would indicate cardiovascular issues.

“I told him, ‘That’s not my eye, that must be someone else’s image already on the device.’

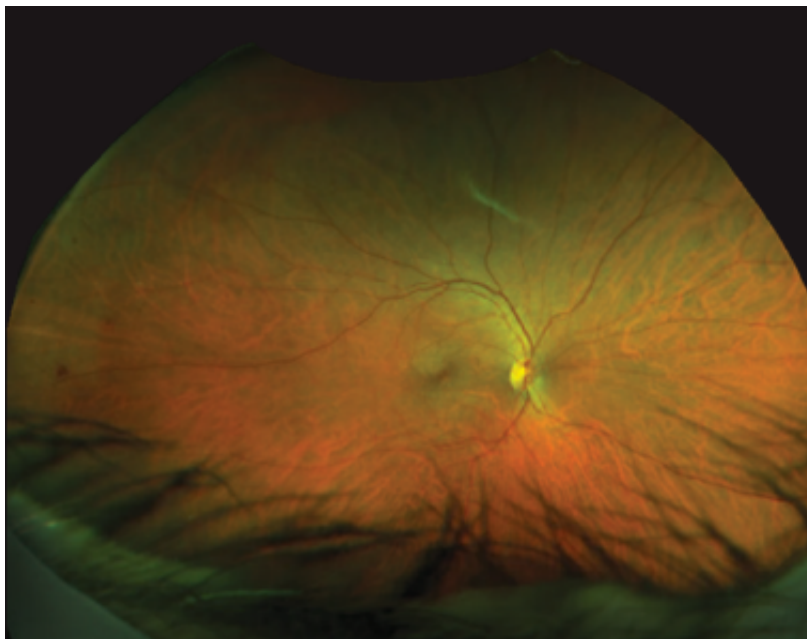
But he assured me that the device was new and that that was not possible,” explained Richardson. “I was shocked and I knew that I had a vascular occlusion somewhere.” He immediately saw a cardiovascular surgeon and had a CTA (Computerized Tomographic Angiography) which confirmed that Richardson had an occlusion of the left anterior descending artery of the heart. Because it was a Friday, and the Memorial Day weekend, by-pass surgery was scheduled for early the following week, meanwhile he was instructed to rest and take aspirin. However, the next morning Richardson began having shortness of breath and some minor chest pain which dissipated and returned twice more before he accepted that he was likely in medical trouble.

He noted that he might have dismissed the symptoms had it not been for what he had identified on the **optomap** image. His visiting children, a physician and physician’s assistant, insisted that he go to the hospital where the blockage was found to be more severe than originally perceived. He underwent successful by-pass surgery the following morning. Richardson noted that his recovery was excellent, enabling him to return to work within a month of his surgery. He credits his renewed ability to exercise and enjoy life to the serendipitous and life-saving introduction of the **optomap** technology into his practice.

Richardson added that he later called the Optos representative and thanked him for showing up early and imaging him.

“I told him that had I not seen the image, I would have gone to my meeting in Florida and I am certain I would have died on the beach thinking that I was having esophageal reflux or something. That **optomap image literally saved my life!”**

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optomap image of Dr. Richardson's right eye indicating hemorrhaging in the far periphery.



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