

Nicholas Belill, OD of Belill Eye Care of Cilo, MI includes **optomap** screening as a part of every exam. He offers this to his patients at no additional charge. His feeling is that many Michigan residents, still recovering from the recession, are less likely to accept the service if there is an additional cost.

When he brought **optomap** into his practice he decided he wanted to offer the highest level of care to all his patients, regardless of their ability to pay.

Josh and his mother came to see Dr. Belill for a routine eye exam. Their visit was spurred only by Josh's difficulty with reading small print.

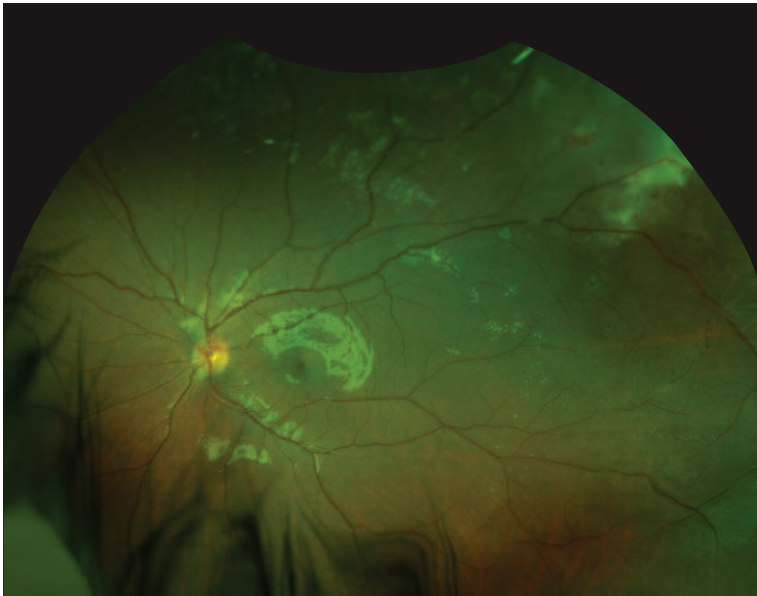
Josh was asymptomatic and had no previous ocular issues and did not seem like a candidate for serious issues. Yet, the **optomap** image revealed extensive hemorrhages and exudates in the periphery and very unusual looking vessels. Belill suspected Coats' Disease and immediately referred Josh to a retinal specialist who confirmed that diagnosis.

The specialist promptly administered laser treatment to avoid further progression of the disease.

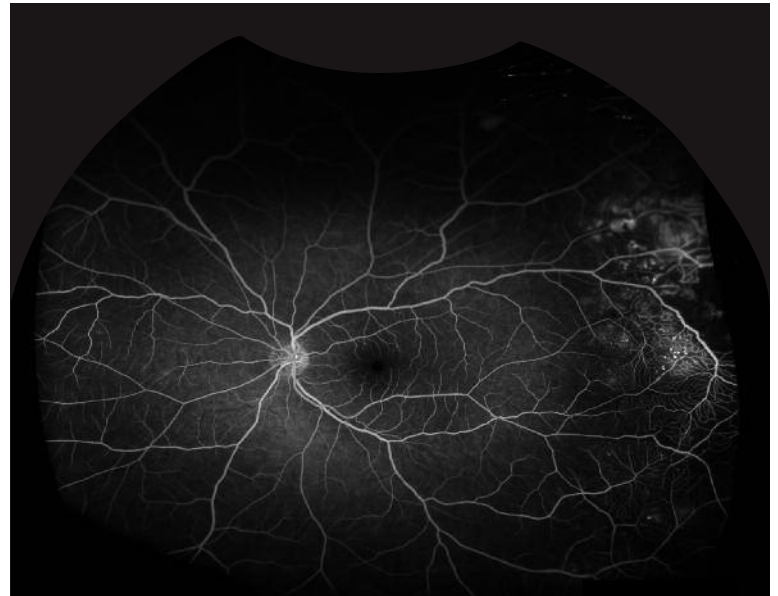
"Coats' is a 1/1,000,000 retinal disease that manifests in macular damage and vision loss and is usually not caught until very late in the disease process. Visual prognoses tend to be very poor and in a significant number of cases can result in eye enucleation." Belill added that it is even more unusual to find it in young patients and because Josh was asymptomatic and

the evidence was in the periphery, it could have been missed had the **optomap** not been done.

"optomap is included in all of my patient exams, because quality of care is more important than ability to pay, therefore we were able to detect the suspicious area and promptly treat to prevent the progression of the disease, macular damage and vision loss."



optomap image of Josh's left retina showing pathology in the far periphery.



optomap *fa* image of Josh's left retina showing pathology in the far periphery.

Optos plc
Tel: +44 (0)1383 843300
ics@optos.com

Optos, Inc
Call Toll-free (US & Canada):
1-800-854-3039
Outside of the US: +1 508 787 1400
usinfo@optos.com

Optos Australia
Tel: +61 8 8444 6500
auinfo@optos.com



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