

# Remote Access Project Scopes & Equipment

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UPMC OPHTHALMOLOGY COMMUNITY OUTREACH &  
REMOTE ACCESS PROGRAMMING (CORAP)



# A G E N D A

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## OUR MISSION

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The Community Outreach and Remote Access Initiatives team (CORAP) is committed to delivering high-quality eye care to underserved communities and developing a research-backed sustainable model to do so.

By addressing barriers to care, reducing health disparities, and fostering meaningful partnerships, we aim to create sustainable solutions that improve vision health and empower individuals.

Through innovative approaches to remote access and tele-health initiatives with a patient-centered focus, we strive to build a future where equitable access to eye care is a reality for **all**.

# MEET THE TEAM



*Program Director*  
**Dr. Jake Waxman**

Evan “Jake” Waxman, MD, PhD, vice chair for education at UPMC Eye Center and professor at the University of Pittsburgh, has directed medical student activities since 1999 and the residency program since 2004. As founder of the Guerrilla Eye Service (GES), Dr. Waxman provides eye care to underserved communities using portable equipment and a dedicated team of students and faculty. His efforts have earned prestigious honors including the Pitt Chancellor’s Service Award and the Jefferson Award.



*Program Manager*  
**Zeila Hobson**

Zeila Hobson brings a rich background in project leadership and UX research to her current role in community outreach. Having established the UX Research department at REEA Global and contributed to large-scale, human-centered UX studies at Meta Reality Labs, she excels at turning complex challenges into actionable solutions. Zeila spearheads community outreach and remote access initiatives, driving efforts to expand eye care access through mobile clinics and innovative telemedicine programs.



*Coordinator*  
**Dr. Valeria Villabona-Martinez**

Valeria Villabona-Martinez, MD, a Colombian-trained physician, has built a career at the forefront of ophthalmic research, clinical care, and public health. After contributing to corneal research at the Cole Eye Institute, she now spearheads community outreach efforts at UPMC, managing clinical research, patient care, and public health strategies. Her work focuses on addressing barriers to visual healthcare, reducing blindness, and advancing ophthalmic knowledge through impactful research and publications.



*Coordinator*  
**Dr. Paula Sepulveda-Beltran**

Paula Sepulveda-Beltran, MD, a Colombian-trained physician, has cultivated a career that integrates ocular surface disease research, clinical care, and community outreach. At Bascom Palmer Eye Institute, she contributed to groundbreaking advancements in infectious keratitis and neuropathic ocular pain. She now leads transformative, community-focused initiatives at UPMC, spearheading programs that eliminate barriers to care, deliver high-quality eye health services, and advance vision health equity for underserved populations.



*Technician*  
**Brenda Kirk**

Brenda Kirk has 30 years of experience in the field of Ophthalmology. She currently holds a certification as an Ophthalmic Assistant through the International Joint Commission on Allied Health Personnel in Ophthalmology and acts as the clinical lead for community outreach events, providing compassionate care to patients in need to ensure their prescriptions, images and eyeglasses are immaculately procured.

# MOBILE EYE CARE FOR OLDER ADULTS & UNDERSERVED POPULATIONS



## Mobile Clinics

### Objective

Identify and diagnose patients at risk for ocular pathologies (glaucoma, cataracts, diabetic retinopathy, AMD) or those with existing diagnoses but poor follow-up, and to refer them to the VI for further testing if needed.

### eyeVan

Eye care for older adults and other underserved populations: comprehensive eye exams in assisted living facilities and community centers, supported by student volunteers. Currently scheduled at 9 sites, 8 of which are recurrent.

### Vision Institute Community Outreach Service (VICOS)

Facilitation of comprehensive eye exams at ~11 FQHC sites supported by staff and student volunteers.

## Current Equipment



Approved for screening:  
Topcon Maestro2

VAT Approval: Complete  
EA Approval: Complete

- iCareDRS+
- Topcon Autorefractor
- Lensometer
- Verizon Mobile Hotspot
- BigE VA Laptop
- Slit Lamp
- iCare Tonometer

# REMOTE VISION TESTING: VISION SCREENING

## Objectives

Because most hospitals do not have ophthalmology care on-site, eye complaints for admitted patients either go un-addressed or require transfer to the Vision Institute or an adjacent practice. To close this care gap, we've embedded automated iCare DRS ophthalmic retina cameras at ~40 locations to screen for ophthalmic diseases (diabetic retinopathy, glaucoma, macular degeneration and cataracts) in high-risk patients before symptoms appear.

Use diagnostic devices (Topcon AI NW400 / 500) in satellite practices and outpatient testing centers (2) to screen and monitor progression of eye diseases (diabetic retinopathy, glaucoma, macular degeneration, and cataracts) with the help of trained staff.

## Current & \*Target Equipment



**Approved for screening:** Topcon NW-400  
**VAT Approval:** Complete  
**EA Approval:** Complete



**Approved for screening:** \*Topcon NW-500  
**VAT Approval:** Complete  
**EA Approval:** Complete

## Current Locations

McKeesport Internal Medicine  
1321 Fifth Ave., Suite 1, McKeesport, PA 15132

GIMO - 9th Floor  
3459 Fifth Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15213

## DRS Camera Locations



# REMOTE VISION TESTING: MONITORING

## Objectives

Because degenerative eye diseases often develop slowly over time, patients require regularly scheduled testing to monitor the progression of their disease. Previous research has established that many barriers to care exist for patients, including but not limited to transportation issues, food insecurity and scheduling conflicts.

By embedding ophthalmic devices (Topcon Tempo + Maestro2) at primary care satellite practices and outpatient testing centers, we aim to remotely monitor progression of eye diseases (diabetic retinopathy, glaucoma, macular degeneration, and cataracts) with the help of trained staff and make such monitoring more accessible to patients.

## Current Equipment



**Approved for screening:** Topcon Tempo  
**VAT Approval:** Complete  
**EA Approval:** Complete



**Approved for screening:** Maestro2  
**VAT Approval:** Complete  
**EA Approval:** Complete

## Target Locations

Mercy Pavilion Primary Care  
1400 Locust Street, Pittsburgh PA 15129

UPMC Presbyterian Primary Care  
200 Lothrop St., Pittsburgh, PA 15213

# REMOTE INPATIENT CONSULTATION

## Current & \*Target Equipment



**Approved for screening:** Topcon Triton

**VAT Approval:** Complete

**EA Approval:** Complete



**Approved for screening:** Maestro2

**VAT Approval:** Complete

**EA Approval:** Complete



**Approved for screening:** Topcon Tempo

**VAT Approval:** Complete

**EA Approval:** Complete



**\*Handheld Retina Camera**

Example: Aurora

## Objective

Improve remote supervision for physician assistants (PAs) in inpatient settings. Many specialties, such as Neurology, benefit from the utilization of on-site ophthalmic devices to facilitate diagnoses.

## Current Locations

Mercy Pavilion Primary Care

1400 Locust Street, Pittsburgh PA 15129

UPMC Presbyterian Primary Care

200 Lothrop St., Pittsburgh, PA 15213

# REMOTE URGENT CONSULTATION

## Current & \*Target Equipment



**Approved for screening:** Topcon Triton

**VAT Approval:** Complete

**EA Approval:** Complete



**Approved for screening:** Maestro2

**VAT Approval:** Complete

**EA Approval:** Complete



**Approved for screening:** Topcon Tempo

**VAT Approval:** Complete

**EA Approval:** Complete



**\*Handheld Retina Camera**

Example: Aurora

## Objective

Evaluate patients in community-based EDs with help of local personnel and remote supervision by comprehensive ophthalmologist to perform urgent eye care on-site and avoid costly transfers to an ophthalmic provider. At least two ophthalmic camera modalities should be employed.

## Target Locations

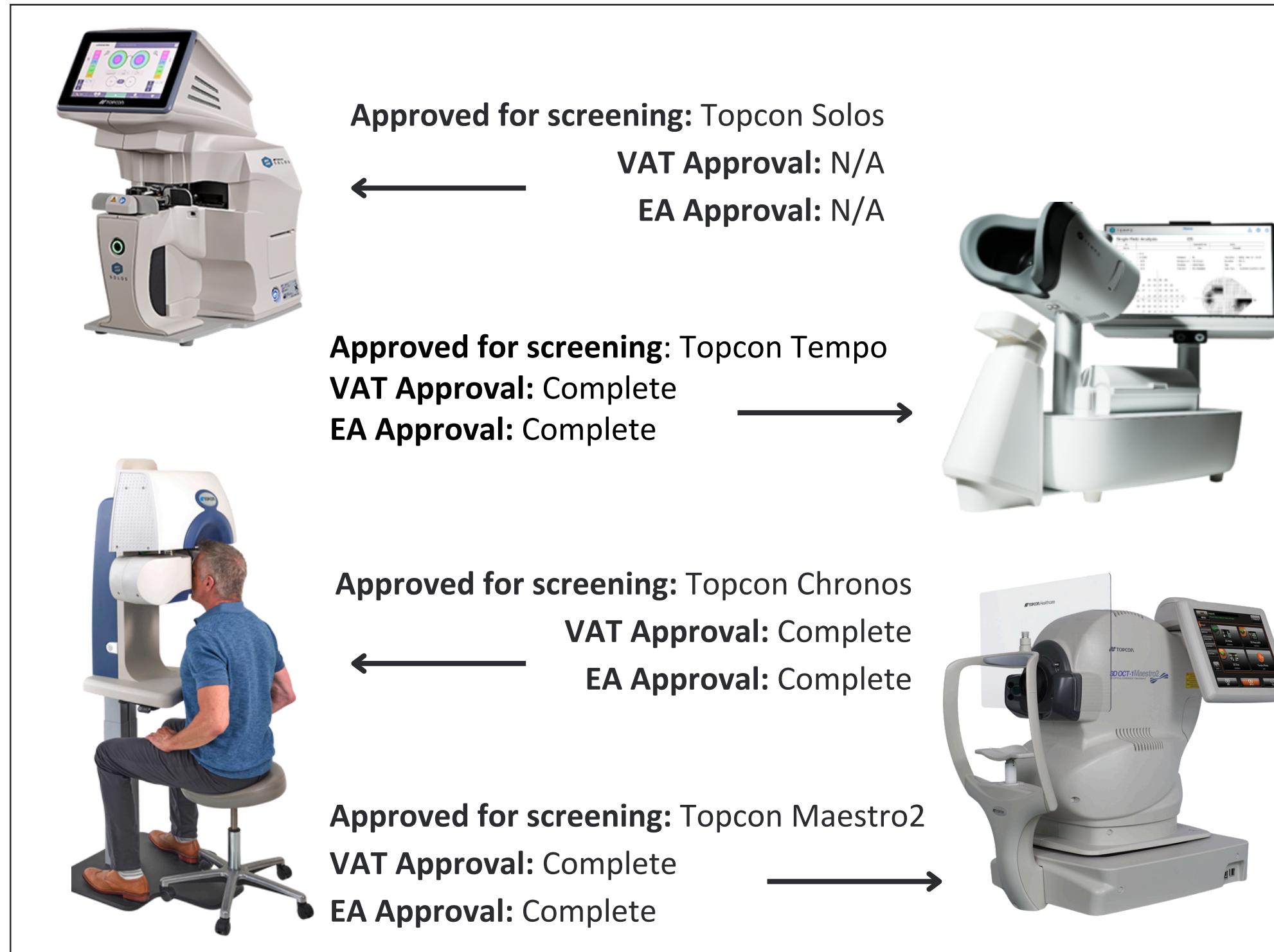
UPMC Presbyterian Primary Care Emergency Dept.  
200 Lothrop St., Pittsburgh, PA 15213

UPMC McKeesport Emergency Department  
1500 5th Ave. McKeesport, PA 15132

University Family Medicine - Primary Care  
5140 Liberty Ave., Suite 150. Pittsburgh, PA 15224

# REMOTE SUPERVISION IN PATIENT CENTERED MEDICAL HOME

## Target Equipment



## Objective

Develop “eyeSuite(s)” in primary care setting(s) to facilitate comprehensive eye examinations with remote supervision (synchronous or asynchronous) by comprehensive ophthalmologist.

Exams will be scheduled with staff ophthalmic technician.

## Target Locations

Alma Illery Health Center (non-UPMC)  
7227 Hamilton Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15208

UPMC Mathilda Theiss Health Center  
1860 Centre Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15219

University Family Medicine - Primary Care  
5140 Liberty Ave., Suite 150. Pittsburgh, PA 15224

# Q & A