

10 SECONDS TO QUALITY SURGICAL DATA





The AL-Scan Optical Biometer from NIDEK delivers six measurements for cataract surgery in 10 seconds. Getting this data quickly and accurately helps improve patient outcomes while also easing the workflow in the doctor's office.

With additional features such as 3D auto-tracking and auto-shot, the NIDEK AL-Scan is a very simple device that can be used by a clinician or technician with minimal training.

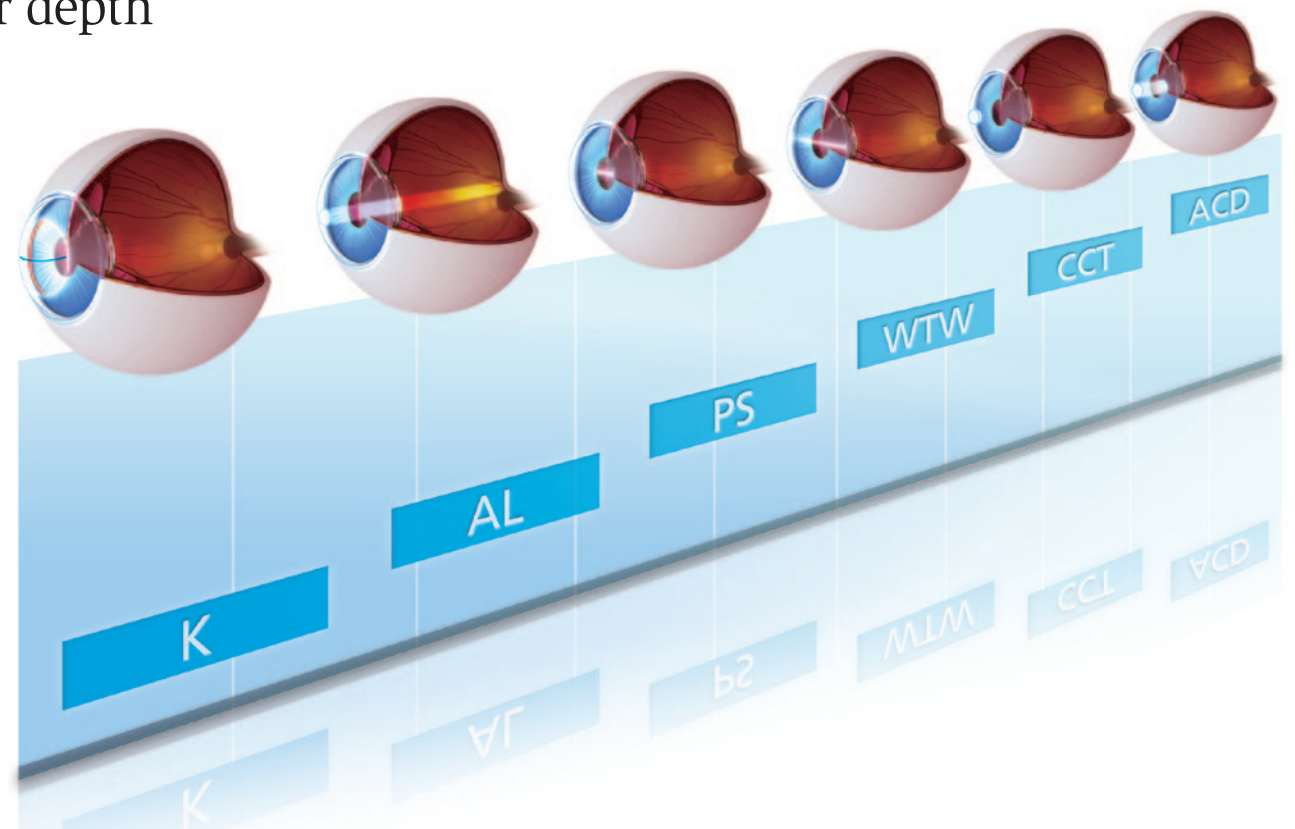


What it does

The AL-Scan utilizes two mire rings, each providing 360 measurements, providing a total of 720 data points. The mire rings are 2.4 (traditionally used for optical biometry) and 3.3 (traditionally used for ultrasound IOL formulas).

The six measurements the device delivers are:

- Keratometry
- Axial length
- Pupil size
- White-to-white measurements
- Central corneal thickness
- Anterior chamber depth



How it is different

“Many optical biometers on the market today can provide the six measurements, but not as quickly or as easily,” says Keith Effert of NIDEK. “They could take up to a few minutes, depending on how many of the measurements need to be completed manually.”

Add in the device’s 3D auto-tracking and the auto-shot, and you have greater accuracy with less room for operator error, he adds. “The 3-D auto-tracking is on the X, Y and Z axes. The user simply pushes the

AL-Scan towards the patient until it locks onto the visual axis. There is little or no learning curve when integrating the device into your practice,” he says.

The device also has an optional built-in ultrasound. This means you don’t necessarily have to move a patient with a mature cataract to another room to get an additional measurement. The device offers contact and immersion ultrasound.



Fits in well in office

The biometer requires only a very small footprint in a practice. It can sit on a small table. It can be set up as a stand-alone device or it can be connected to the office network. Reports can be printed out on any networked printer or the data can be saved into a folder or even directly into the patient's electronic medical record.

Office staffs appreciate the biometer's intuitiveness and efficiency. "Every time we demonstrate the device

in an office, the staff loves it. They say it is easier to use than other biometers and does everything they need," says Keith Effert.

Although the device is primarily for use in preparation for cataract surgery, anterior segment surgeons who also do refractive surgery will appreciate the values it brings to both incisional refractive surgery and phakic IOL implantation.

“AL-Scan has made my practice more efficient and given us additional capabilities. We no longer send out—we do everything in-house. AL-Scan's compact design was perfect for our offices here in Manhattan. NIDEK's reputation as one of the best manufacturers was a big factor in our decision.”

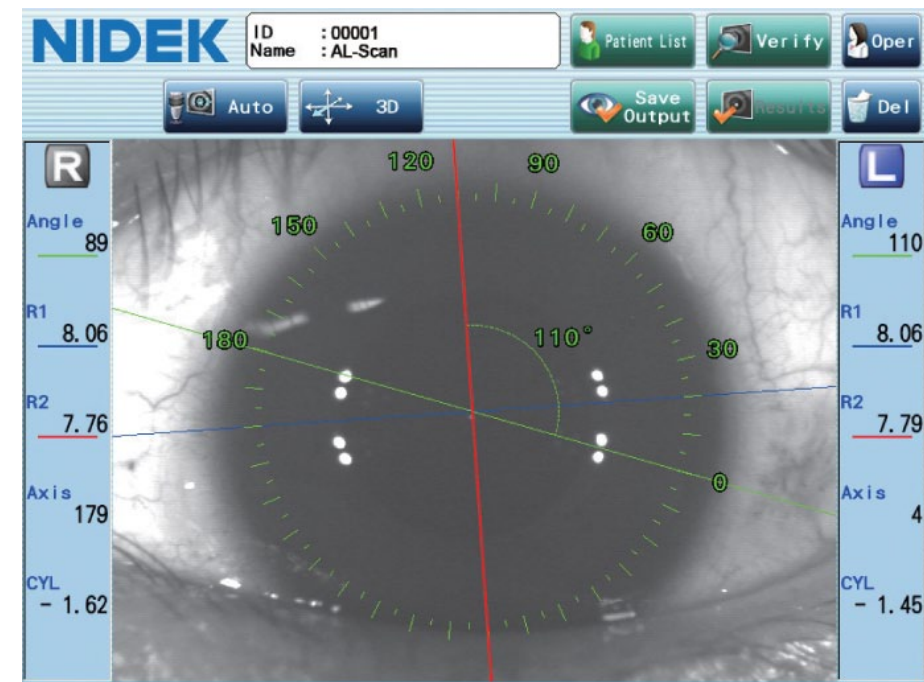


— Jeffrey D. Nightingale, MD, FACS



Toric Assist

A unique feature of the AL-Scan is the toric assist function. The AL-Scan can draw a line passing through a prominent vessel or other landmark that can indicate the angle from the steepest meridian. The lines and angle are clearly denoted and overlaid on the eye image to assist with toric IOL alignment in the operating theater.



Other highlights

Two other unique features of the AL-Scan:

- Its use of Scheimpflug imaging helps it assess central corneal thickness and anterior chamber depth accurately.
- It allows the surgeon to perform constant IOL optimization. In addition, by using the Ultrasound Laser Interference Biometry (ULIB) website to get optimized A-constants for optical biometry, surgeons can optimize their A-constants within the AL-Scan itself by calculating patients' postoperative results.



One surgeon's experience



FARRELL C.
TYSON, MD,
FACS

Dr. Tyson added the AL-Scan to his practice more than a year ago to replace an aging biometer from another company. He was also expanding his surgical practice, and wanted the added efficiency that the AL-Scan delivers.

“The AL-Scan delivers results three times faster and is easier to use than other options, and is available at a price point that is hard to beat,” he says.

His staff loved it from the first time they saw it, he adds. “After the first demonstration, they were ecstatic. They saw it delivers highly accurate results

without much of a learning curve. Its results are highly reproducible, so we know we are getting the right data the first time,” he says.

Other biometers provide results based on an average of 5 readings, he explained. The AL-Scan takes several readings and then provides the user with result based upon which readings have the best signal-to-noise ratio. “Using an average ‘dumbs down’ the data. By being able to identify the outliers, the AL-Scan is able to dismiss them, instead of incorporating them.”

He adds, “Patients today expect perfection and this is one of the tools that helps me meet that expectation.”



See for yourself



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