



Salus University and National Vision Partner to Educate Optometry Students on Remote Eye Exam Technology

March 3, 2020

Pilot Program to Help Prepare Students for All Aspects of Optometry in the Future

ELKINS PARK, Pa.--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- Salus University has partnered with National Vision, Inc., a subsidiary of National Vision Holdings, Inc. (NASDAQ: EYE), to advance optometric education via a pilot program focused on training students on conducting remote eye exams utilizing high-tech equipment and real-time secure HD video conferencing. The technology enables optometrists to see patients remotely in locations that do not have a doctor or when the doctor is not available.

This press release features multimedia. View the full release here: <https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20200303005293/en/>

Doctors from the University launched the pilot program in January, conducting remote exams from The Eye Institute - the University's main clinical optometric facility - for patients within a retail optical location operated by National Vision.

"Telemedicine is not a new concept yet the use in optometry is somewhat controversial. PCO (the Pennsylvania College of Optometry) has a long history of leading the profession and keeping abreast of the latest developments," said Dr. Maria Parisi, associate dean of Salus University's Pennsylvania College of Optometry. "Initiating this pilot project will allow us to reveal the strengths and limitations of this inevitable innovation. PCO looks forward to providing recommendations on best practices to eye care providers."

The program provides patients with an eye examination, inclusive of both subjective and objective refraction as well as anterior and posterior segments eye health testing. A certified technician employed by National Vision facilitates the exam in person, gathering all necessary information about the patient and transmitting it via computer to a doctor at The Eye Institute. At The Eye Institute, PCO faculty serve as proctors allowing students to observe a full remote examination without ever stepping foot in the same room as the patient.

"Technology is changing rapidly, and we believe it is important to learn and explore to ensure we are always operating in ways that are best for patients, customers and doctors," said National Vision's CEO Reade Fahs. "We are proud to have the opportunity to support advancing the field of optometry and optometric education through this partnership pilot, and to explore how rapidly changing technology can help us support our doctor network to potentially see difficult-to-reach patients and ultimately advance our mission of providing affordable, accessible eye care and eyewear." Fahs is a member of the Salus University Board of Trustees.

About National Vision Holdings, Inc.

National Vision Holdings, Inc. (NASDAQ: EYE) is one of the largest optical retail companies in the United States with over 1,100 stores in 44 states plus the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. With a mission of helping people by making quality eye care and eyewear more affordable and accessible, the company operates five retail brands: [America's Best Contacts & Eyeglasses](#), [Eyeglass World](#), [Vision Centers](#) inside select Walmart stores, and [Vista Optical](#)s inside Fred Meyer stores and on select military bases, and several e-commerce websites, offering a variety of products and services for customers' eye care needs. For more information, please visit www.nationalvision.com.

About Salus University

Salus University, founded as the Pennsylvania College of Optometry in 1919, today is a diversified, globally recognized professional academic center of learning that offers a wide range of degree programs in the professions of Optometry, Audiology, Physician Assistant, Public Health, Blindness and Low Vision Studies, Biomedicine, Occupational Therapy and Speech-Language Pathology. Salus operates four clinical facilities in Philadelphia and Montgomery counties that provide highly specialized vision, hearing and balance, and speech-language pathology services. The University has more than 1,200 students, and more than 14,000 alumni worldwide. For more information, please visit salus.edu.

View source version on [businesswire.com](https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20200303005293/en/): <https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20200303005293/en/>

Media:

Mike Morsch
Salus University
mmorsch@salus.edu
(215) 780-1284

Kristina Gross
National Vision, Inc.
Kristina.gross@nationalvision.com
(470) 448-2355

Source: National Vision, Inc.