

Keratoconus

Clue:

Unusual Auto-refractor Reading

Error messages

Error messages or unusual findings may result from corneal distortion and irregular astigmatism. Topography may be needed if repeated attempts at measurement fail.

≥ 0.50 D increase in myopia or MRSE

Keratoconus should be considered if a patient experiences a myopic shift or MRSE change ≥ 0.50 D from visit to visit. Unexpected changes in prescription could indicate corneal shape changes or steepening, as seen in progressive keratoconus.

Frequent changes in prescription

MRVA worse than 20/20 or repeat complaints about glasses prescription needing to be updated or “being wrong” may indicate keratoconus.

“Because most patients are routinely screened using auto-refraction, changes in refractive error may be the first clue of keratoconus. However, presence of refractive error and/or refractive shifts are not mandatory findings of keratoconus.”

—Dr Schroeder Swartz, iDetective

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