

CASE STUDY

# How Dr. Murphy Made **Visual Field Testing Better** for **Elderly and Mobility-Limited Patients**

Dr. James Murphy, MD, | Ophthalmologist, Glaucoma Specialist



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# How Dr. Murphy Made **Visual Field Testing Better** for Elderly and Mobility-Limited Patients

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Dr. James Murphy is a board-certified ophthalmologist and a fellowship-trained glaucoma specialist practicing in New York and Connecticut. His experience spans several decades, focusing primarily on a patient population that includes many elderly individuals with mobility and physical limitations, which made traditional visual field testing challenging, if not impossible.

Traditional tabletop perimeters required his patients to remain in uncomfortable, rigid positions for extended periods. This expectation was an unrealistic expectation for many of Dr. Murphy's patients, and as a result, he struggled to obtain reliable test results and maintain patient satisfaction. He was ready for a better solution, but when he first encountered Carrot (formerly Virtual Field), he was skeptical — until he saw it in action.

<b>Exams Used</b> 24-2 BOLT 10-2 BOLT	<b>Accessibility Benefit</b>  <b>41</b> Languages for audio instructions
<b>Favorite Benefits of Carrot</b> Better patient compliance and accessibility for patients with disabilities	<b>Biggest Surprise Using Carrot</b> Elderly patients love the virtual reality experience

## Introducing a More Comfortable, Accessible Testing Solution

The Carrot headset initially seemed too futuristic for Dr. Murphy's practice. He worried that virtual reality-based testing might be too complicated for his older patient population and that they would struggle with compliance. But once he implemented it in his practice, he quickly saw the opposite was true.



*"Elderly patients love the experience of a wearable headset and, contrary to what one might assume, are very capable of reliably performing SAP if allowed a higher degree of comfort for the duration of the test compared to traditional, tabletop perimetry," said Dr. Murphy.*

## A More Comfortable Testing Experience

Once he realized Carrot's advanced technology wasn't an obstacle, he was pleased to discover that the headset itself improved the patient experience.



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*There are several aspects of the Carrot experience that patients enjoy, but comfort is a big one,” said Dr. Murphy. “I serve a population of patients who are in their 70s, 80s, and 90s. Many of them have spine and neck issues, are wheelchair-bound, or otherwise have mobility and stamina limitations.”*

Carrot was designed specifically to improve the experience of visual field testing, and for patients with mobility issues or pain, this portable device was a game-changer. Dr. Murphy can conduct visual field and vision function tests anywhere his patients feel comfortable, even in a wheelchair. He couldn't do that with a traditional tabletop perimeter.

### Fewer Patient Complaints

Most patients don't enjoy the long testing times or awkward postures associated with traditional visual field testing. Dr. Murphy notes that Carrot's improved comfort and user-friendly design have significantly reduced complaints and increased compliance among patients who previously dreaded conventional visual field tests.

### Reaching a Diverse Patient Base with Language Support

All Carrot headsets are equipped with built-in audio instructions available in 41 languages. This functionality has particularly benefited Dr. Murphy's diverse patient base, including non-English speakers who struggled with traditional testing methods. The language feature has improved the reliability of test results by enhancing patient understanding and engagement during exams.

### Better Operational Efficiency

Once Dr. Murphy's staff begins a test using the Carrot platform, they're free to take notes, monitor the patient, and improve workflow. Staff can now manage multiple patients more efficiently and address the challenges of staffing shortages.



*[Carrot] saves staff time. Staff members can set patients up pretty quickly and let the audio instructions from the headset guide the patient in their native language, which automates the one-on-one coaching they usually have to do, and increases the reliability of the results."*

### Clinical Accuracy and Reliability

Of course, Dr. Murphy could not sacrifice accurate test results. Quality patient care demands high accuracy of new diagnostic tools that are at least as good as legacy tabletop perimeters. Dr. Murphy notes that while the devices are fundamentally different, Carrot has shown comparable — if not superior — accuracy in clinical evaluations.



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## Upgrading Patient Care Across the Board



*There are a lot of benefits to having this technology in your office simply from a patient satisfaction perspective," Dr. Murphy said.*

Dr. Murphy's transition to Carrot technology has transformed the visual field testing experience in his practice, making it more patient-friendly, operationally efficient, and clinically reliable. Even with a modest number of tests per month, the savings in staffing and operational efficiency make Carrot a financially viable option for any practice.

What started as a solution to improve accessibility for elderly and mobility-limited patients has now become an indispensable part of his practice. With greater patient comfort, streamlined operations, and a strong return on investment, Carrot has redefined visual field testing for both his staff and his patients.



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