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Driving with Low Vision: Development of Evidence Based Practice Manual for Bioptic Drivers

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Vanderbilt Low Vision Clinic

Vanderbilt Low Vision clinic focuses on bringing occupational therapy services to individuals with low vision. "Low vision is visual difficulty that cannot be corrected with glasses, contacts, medication or surgery."

OTs in the field of low vision focus on helping individuals set and meet goals for daily living by combining the most advanced technology, tools, and strategies.

Identified Needs

- Improve understanding of the process for obtaining a Bioptic Telescope System (BTS) driver's license for novice drivers with low vision
- Collaborate with various bioptic driving programs to increase understanding of evidence-based pre-driver training exercises
- Develop system to standardize pre-driver training between clinicians at Vanderbilt
- Improve carry-over of BTS skills from in-clinic to behindthe-wheel training
- Create patient educational manual that includes BTS licensure process and home exercise program to increase success in behind-the-wheel training with novice drivers

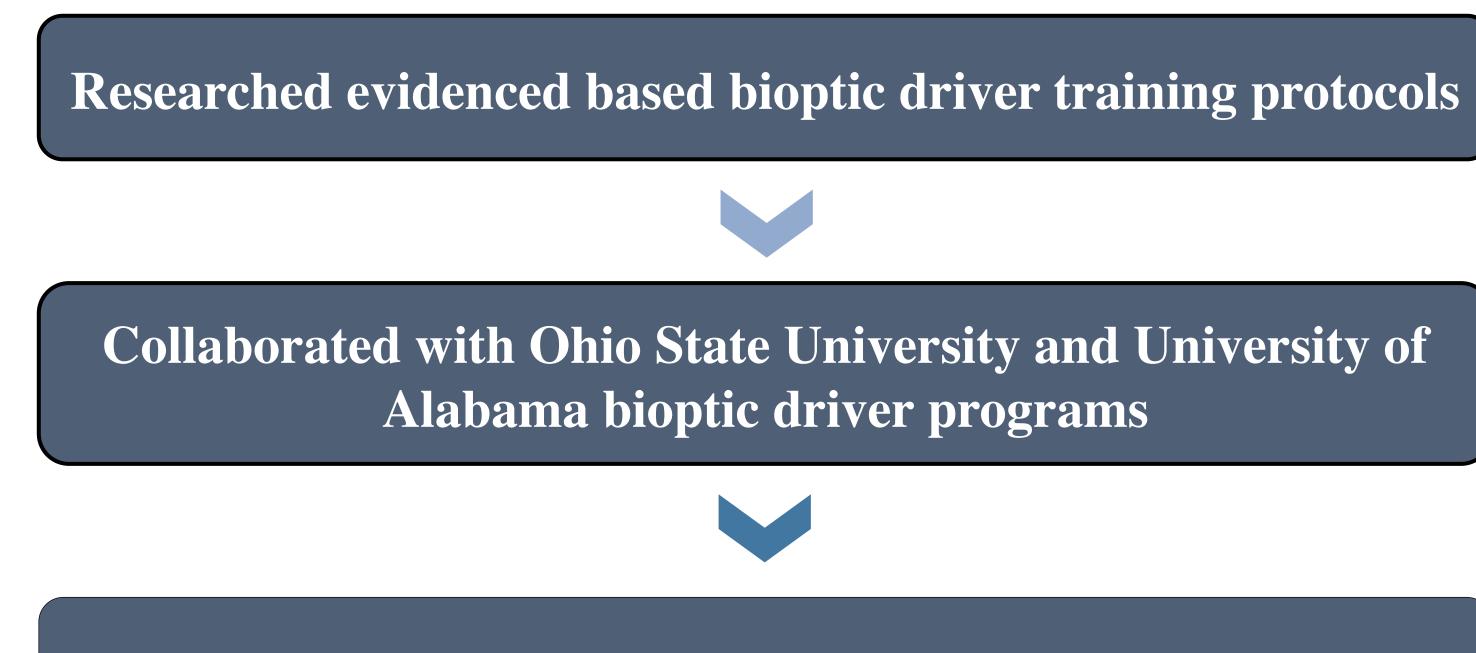
Capstone Goals

- Develop confidence in addressing concerns or vocalizing needs by the end of the capstone experience
- Reach out to clinicians at bioptic driving programs in other states to analyze, learn, and gain inspiration from their preferred treatment ideas and perceived success rate for BTS pre-driver training
- Create a comprehensive "Bioptic Pre-Driver Training Manual for Novice Drivers" that standardizes clinicians' approach to pre-driver training interventions as well as provides patient educational materials
- Research current evidence-based practice guidelines for bioptic pre-driver training

Driving with Low Vision: Development of Evidence Based Practice Manual for Bioptic Drivers

Prepared by Emily Sonni, OTD/S Faculty Mentor: Carlene Johnson OTD, OTR/L Expert Mentor: Lynette O'Brien, OTR/L, Level III, Student Coordinator

Manual Development Process



Met with all key stakeholders to determine manual priorities

Wrote and assembled 30 manuals for patient and client use



Look directly at the object you want to see through the glasses





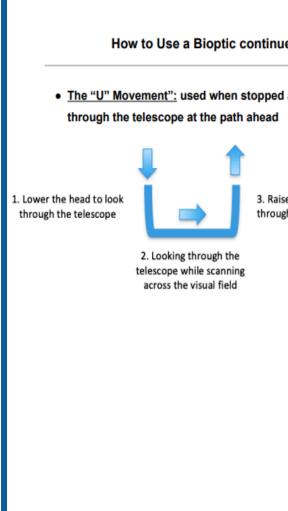


Tuck your chin and look up into the telescope to find the object, keeping both eyes open

Watch what it's like to drive with a bioptic!

"Bioptic Pre-Driver Training Program"

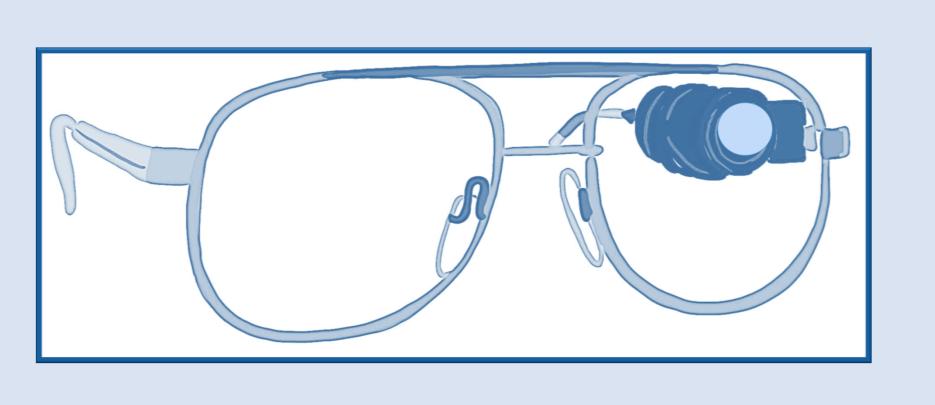
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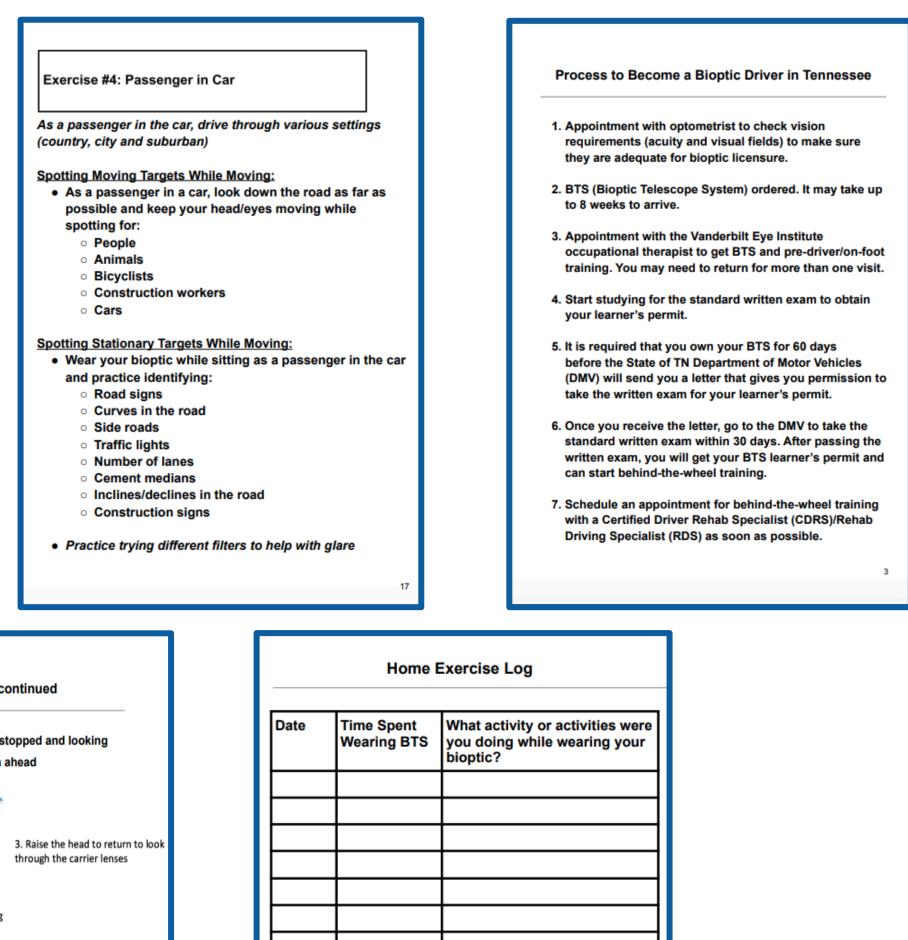


- for in-clinic and on-foot training
- Collected initial quantitative and qualitative data for future research

I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to the following individuals:

References Available Upon Request





Additional Outcomes

Created a system to standardize practice between clinicians

Acknowledgments

Lynette O'Brien for her support, guidance, and encouragement throughout this project Molly Beverick, Christy Horner, and Julie Jones for their collaboration, valued insight and for making me feel a temporary part of the low vision team Dr. Carlene Johnson for her steadfast advice and wisdom