

'Made for dentistry'

An interview with
Dr. Sammy R. Bryan
of Bryan Orthodontics
in Huntsville, Texas

By Anna Kataoka, Shofu Dental

■ The right camera is a versatile, easily operated instrument that can be used by the whole team to improve practice efficiency, clinical accuracy and patient acceptance.

Packed with intuitive, cutting-edge functions tailored specifically for dentistry, the EyeSpecial C-II helps the clinicians meet the varied needs in their practices.

Dr. Sammy R. Bryan from Bryan Orthodontics in Huntsville, Texas, is an early adopter of this new technology.

Today, he shares his experience with incorporating the EyeSpecial C-II into his successful orthodontic and dentofacial orthopedic practice.

What was your first experience with clinical photography? When did the journey begin?

While in my orthodontic residency, I had the opportunity to incorporate patient photography in all of my cases. I found that having the appropriate camera is vital to documenting cases.

Later, after I had been in private practice for a few years, digital cameras were introduced, and that new technology allowed us to instantly view pictures on the camera screen, which meant we no longer had to wait for film to be developed.

There are many other advantages of a digital camera, such as incorporating photos into every day correspondence with other dentists, patients and insurance companies.



• Fig. 1: Full orthodontic photo series achieved with the EyeSpecial C-II digital camera from Shofu. (Photos/Provided by Dr. Sammy R. Bryan)



• The EyeSpecial C-II. (Photo/Provided by Shofu Dental)

Could you describe the photography work flow in your practice?

We take photographs of every patient who is ready to start treatment. The initial records include a full series of facial and intraoral photos, appropriate radiographs, iTero scans and plaster models as needed.

We also take photos during treatment to monitor progress.

Finally, we take another set of photographs at the end of the treatment after appliances have been removed. All of our captured images are transferred from our camera via an SD card to our OrthoTrac software.

Do you also utilize a digital camera for patient communication and education, specifically to improve the consent and compliance?

Absolutely! Photographs are immensely helpful when I discuss with the patient a proposed treatment plan or underscore the need for compliance.

Showing patients and/or their parents large, clear, crisp photographs of the problematic areas makes a notable visual impression.

For even a greater impact, especially

with patients exhibiting very poor oral hygiene, we often transpose the camera images to a 55-inch display to further emphasize the areas of concern and to ensure the patient visually grasps the gravity of the situation.

What camera(s) do you utilize to take clinical photographs? Do you have different cameras for a specific type of photography?

Until recently, we used Kodak's Easy-Share DX7590 to meet all our clinical photography needs. However, in May 2016, we acquired the EyeSpecial C-II and since then have incorporated this camera into our everyday clinical practice.

What do you like about this new camera? Are there any specific features that stand out?

The EyeSpecial C-II camera from Shofu has many qualities that have remarkably improved the process of taking clinical photographs in our practice.

This camera is lightweight, allowing for one-hand operation while holding a cheek retractor or a mirror with the other hand. It has pre-set modes for the types of images that we take in our practice, making the photography-taking process predictable and easy to achieve for everyone.

The camera's pressure-sensitive touchscreen is large, and it can be navigated with a gloved hand. The motion-stabilization feature and the gridlines are very helpful in obtaining clear images almost every time. My team finds the EyeSpecial C-II camera to be efficient and very easy to work with.

How does this new camera deal with the compliance to infection-control protocols?

Since the EyeSpecial C-II camera is water- and chemical-resistant, we are able to maintain recommended infection-control compliance utilizing our normal surface-disinfecting wipes.

Are there any challenges associated with utilizing the EyeSpecial C-II camera? If so, are they camera-related? Operator-related? Patient-related?

With the new camera, the few challenges we experienced were found to be opera-



Fig. 2: The clinical team at Bryan Orthodontics, from left, Myosha (clinical assistant and lab coordinator), Ann (clinical assistant and inventory coordinator), Alex (scheduling coordinator), Kody (financial coordinator), Dr. Bryan (founder, Bryan Orthodontics), Dana (treatment and marketing coordinator), Mindy (clinical assistant) and Naomi (clinical assistant and records coordinator).

tor-related. Initially we had an issue with the camera screen occasionally freezing up, requiring the camera to be turned off then back on to fix the problem, but that turned out to be a problem with our SD card.

Overall, the EyeSpecial C-II camera has been very easy for our staff to use and has definitely improved the quality of our clinical photographs. In our practice, we have a records technician who is in charge of taking most of the clinical images, but with the new camera and its ease of navigation, other clinical staff are also capable of and do take quality photographs.

Do you have any advice for dentists looking to adopt a smart digital camera technology into their practices?

I recommend anyone looking for a new camera for intraoral and facial photography to consider the EyeSpecial C-II. Even though, just like with every new technology, there is usually an initial learning curve, with a little instruction, the implementation soon becomes very easy.

The major advantage of the EyeSpecial C-II is the camera is made for dentistry. It is user friendly and lightweight, which my team really appreciates, and it consistently produces great results.

About the doctor



Sammy R. Bryan, DDS, PA, is the founder of Bryan Orthodontics, a full-time orthodontic and dentofacial orthopedic practice in Huntsville, Texas. He graduated from the University of Texas Dental School at Houston. After practicing general dentistry for several years, Bryan returned to his alma mater to complete the graduate orthodontic program and receive his orthodontic certification. He is an active member of several professional organizations, including American Association of Orthodontists, Texas Orthodontic Association (past president), American Dental Association, Texas Dental Association and International College of Dentists. He was a Texas Dentist of the Year Nominee in 2015.

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