The Heidelberg Retina Tomograph II is a confocal laser scanning system for acquisition and analysis of three-dimensional images of the posterior segment of the eye. This instrument allows the physician to obtain a quantitative description of the optic nerve head topography and time-related changes to it. Its most important usage is to describe glaucoma-type damage of the optic nerve head and to be able to chart any progression of the condition with scheduled follow-up images.

**When would the physician order this test?**
The information that is obtained during this test provides valuable information for the physician, and having an image taken as a baseline of the optic nerve to keep in the record would be beneficial for anyone. It would definitely be suggested when the physician views anything usual during a routine examination, when there is suspicion of glaucoma or even a family history of glaucoma. Having the ability to repeat the image six months or a year later, and knowing the HRT II will be able to analyze any changes that occurred between images, is extremely helpful when determining treatment options for the patient.

**How is the test performed?**
No special preparation is required on the part of the patient in order to perform this test. There is no need for anesthetic eyedrops. The patient is positioned in front of the instrument and rests his or her chin onto the holder. The eye is then able to focus on a small light. The technician is able to view the monitor that allows them to make any necessary adjustments to where the patient is focused. The image is taken quickly and the instrument compiles the information. The image and information is then printed and given to the physician.