Historical Background

Early in the 1960s, the Swedish ophthalmologist F. Janson, through his extensive experimental and clinical work, introduced precise and accurate immersion AL measurements. He also gave us the exact sound velocities within the clear lens and the vitreous body as well as the anterior chamber fluid. Hoffer introduced immersion A-scan for IOL power calculation in the USA in 1974 and stimulated Sonometrics to produce a stand-alone unit that introduced application contact A-scan. He later proved (see Chapter 1) that application shortened the eye compared to immersion and abandoned its use. This method however gained immense popularity because it was considered an easier and faster method. It spread rapidly and widely for mainly two reasons:

- It required no additional space in ophthalmic offices to recline a patient as needed for the immersion method.
- It was easier to learn and quicker to perform.

Why Immersion Method

Over the past decade the increasing interest in the immersion method is due to the following reasons: