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Visual field changes in type 2 diabetics without retinopathy: A review

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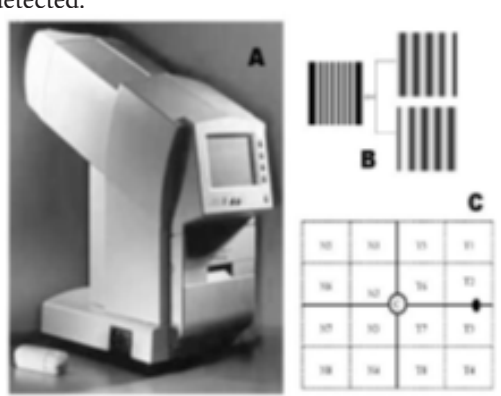
Background: Diabetic retinopathy (DR) progression has a direct effect on vision, which by time will cause visual deterioration. (1) Localized visual field (VF) sensitivity losses were reported in diabetics with background DR and clinically significant macular edema.(2,3) There is little information however about VF changes in diabetics without retinopathy.

Purpose: To review VF changes in diabetics without retinopathy.

Methods: A literature review was conducted on testing VF in diabetics without retinopathy. The search criteria considered the type of diabetes, the type of VF stimulus presented, and the instrument used.

Results: The source of variability in the VF results in diabetics depended on the difference in the instrument and/or stimulus used, as VF changes were reported for some instruments while others did not report any change. (i.e. whether it was standard automated perimetry, short wavelength automated [blue-yellow] perimetry, or frequency doubling [FDT] perimetry). Differences between type 1 and type 2 diabetics were also reported. When compared to type 1 diabetics, few studies have tested type 2 diabetics without retinopathy.

Conclusions: Care should be taken when comparing VF changes between studies related to the type of diabetes, type of stimulus and instrument used. This presentation will further elaborate the differences between VF tests. Also, clinical VF data for type 2 diabetics without retinopathy will be presented; aiming to see if VF testing can be used as a clinical screening tool for type 2 diabetics before retinopathy is detected.



Biography

Shroug Aldaham has recently graduated from Complutense University of Madrid (UCM), Spain with a PhD degree in Optics, Optometry and Vision. She has a BSc (Hons) in Optometry from King Saud University (KSU), Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, and a Master of Science in Vision Science from the University of Waterloo, Ontario, Canada. She has joined the Optometry department at KSU as a demonstrator (an academic position that prepares for professorship) before joining the Master program in Canada. After her masters she returned to Riyadh and later joined the PhD program at UCM. Both of her Masters and PhD studies were Saudi government-funded research grants. She has a research experience in pediatric vision screening and visual function testing in diabetics and has published in international optometric and vision research meetings. Her research interests are pediatric and diabetic visual.

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