

Comment on “performance characteristics of multicolor versus blue light and infrared imaging in the identification of reticular pseudodrusen”

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Dear Editor,

We read with great interest the article titled “performance characteristics of multicolor versus blue light and infrared imaging in the identification of reticular pseudodrusen” authored by Badal et al. [1]. Authors have used Spectralis HRA + OCT system to study the ability of multicolor imaging (MC) to detect reticular pseudodrusen in comparison with blue reflectance (BR) and infrared reflectance (IR) imaging. Composite MC image is created by BR, IR and green reflectance (GR) images. MC image has contribution from IR image along with blue and green reflectance images [2]. Hence, the premise of comparing MC with IR is flawed because MC is not an independent imaging modality from IR. IR is one of the contributors of MC image and any comparison between two is incorrect because IR features are incorporated to create a MC image. MC should be compared with conventional color fundus photography (CFP) because the two imaging modalities are of same class of

“color” images and acquired by completely different techniques [2, 3]. Graham et al. [3] have reported MC to be more sensitive than CFP in detecting reticular pseudodrusen. IR image should be compared with BR and GR because these three reflectance images are independent of each other and created by laser channels of different wavelengths. For example, GR was found to be more sensitive in detecting surface folds in macular pucker compared to BR and IR images [4]. Though it is still possible to compare MC with its component reflectance images because each of these images appear different, the inferences which we draw from layer-wise retinal imaging with three reflectance images (BR, GR and IR) can be extrapolated to clinical picture only if they were compared with each other.

Authors also claim that cost–benefit of MC compared to IR alone is against MC because it uses two more imaging modalities, namely BR and GR. However, this assertion is impractical because Spectralis HRA + OCT captures MC, IR, GR and BR images simultaneously by default and there is no option of capturing IR alone, leaving BR, GR and MC aside to make it “cost effective” as suggested by authors.

We have reported utility of MC imaging in asteroid hyalosis, retinal drug toxicity and optic disk disorders. We believe that MC imaging an important tool in the retinal imaging armamentarium [2].

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