



THE UNIVERSITY *of* EDINBURGH

Edinburgh Research Explorer

Family-based Genome-wide Association Study of South Indian Pedigrees Supports WNT7B as a Central Corneal Thickness Locus

Citation for published version:

Mexican American Glaucoma Genetic Study, International Glaucoma Genetics Consortium, Neighborhood Consortium, George, RJ & Wiggs, JL 2018, 'Family-based Genome-wide Association Study of South Indian Pedigrees Supports WNT7B as a Central Corneal Thickness Locus' *Investigative Ophthalmology & Visual Science*. DOI: 10.1167/iovs.17-23536

Digital Object Identifier (DOI):

[10.1167/iovs.17-23536](https://doi.org/10.1167/iovs.17-23536)

Link:

[Link to publication record in Edinburgh Research Explorer](#)

Document Version:

Peer reviewed version

Published In:

Investigative Ophthalmology & Visual Science

General rights

Copyright for the publications made accessible via the Edinburgh Research Explorer is retained by the author(s) and / or other copyright owners and it is a condition of accessing these publications that users recognise and abide by the legal requirements associated with these rights.

Take down policy

The University of Edinburgh has made every reasonable effort to ensure that Edinburgh Research Explorer content complies with UK legislation. If you believe that the public display of this file breaches copyright please contact openaccess@ed.ac.uk providing details, and we will remove access to the work immediately and investigate your claim.



1 **Family-based Genome-wide Association Study of South Indian Pedigrees Supports**
2 ***WNT7B* as a Central Corneal Thickness Locus**

3

4 **Bao Jian Fan¹, Xueli Chen², Nisha Sondhi¹, P. Fedina marie Sharmila³, Nagasamy**
5 **Soumittra³, S. Sripriya³, S. Sacikala³, Rashima Asokan⁴, David S. Friedman⁵, Louis R.**
6 **Pasquale^{1,6}, X. Raymond Gao⁷, Lingam Vijaya⁴, Jessica Cooke Bailey⁸, Veronique Vitart⁹,**
7 **Stuart MacGregor¹⁰, Christopher J. Hammond¹¹, Chiea Chuen Khor¹², Jonathan L.**
8 **Haines⁸, Mexican American Glaucoma Genetic Study, International Glaucoma Genetics**
9 **Consortium, NEIGHBORHOOD Consortium, Ronnie George⁴, Janey L. Wiggs^{1*}**

10

11 ¹Department of Ophthalmology, Harvard Medical School, Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary,
12 Boston, MA

13 ²Department of Ophthalmology & Visual Science, Eye & Ear Nose Throat Hospital, Shanghai
14 Medical College, Fudan University, Shanghai, China

15 ³SNONGC Department of Genetics and Molecular biology, Vision Research Foundation,
16 Sankara Nethralaya, Chennai, India

17 ⁴Medical Research Foundation, Sankara Nethralaya, Chennai, India

18 ⁵The Dana Center for Preventive Ophthalmology, Johns Hopkins Medical School, Wilmer Eye
19 Institute, Baltimore, Maryland

20 ⁶Channing Division of Network Medicine, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Harvard Medical
21 School, Boston, MA.

22 ⁷Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences, University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago,
23 IL

24 ⁸Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Institute for Computational biology, Case
25 Western Reserve University School of Medicine, Cleveland, Ohio

26 ⁹MRC Human Genetics Unit, Institute for Genetics and Molecular Medicine, University of
27 Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK.

28 ¹⁰QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia.

29 ¹¹Department of Twin Research and Genetic Epidemiology, King's College London, London,
30 UK.

31 ¹²Division of Human Genetics, Genome Institute of Singapore, Singapore.

32

33 *Corresponding author:

34 Janey L. Wiggs, MD PhD

35 Paul Austin Chandler Professor of Ophthalmology

36 Harvard Medical School

37 Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary

38 243 Charles Street

39 Boston, MA 02114

40 617 573 6440 (office)

41 janey_wiggs@meei.harvard.edu

1 **ABSTRACT**

2 Purpose: Central corneal thickness (CCT) is a highly heritable ocular quantitative trait related to
3 several eye diseases including keratoconus and glaucoma. The genetic risk factors contributing
4 to CCT as well as the average CCT values varies among populations. Genome-wide
5 association studies have not yet been completed for ocular quantitative traits in individuals from
6 South India, a population with a high prevalence of ocular disorders.

7 Methods: 195 individuals from 15 large consanguineous South Indian pedigrees were
8 genotyped using the Omni2.5 bead array. Family-based association, adjusting for age and sex,
9 was conducted using the score test in MERLIN to assess association between single nucleotide
10 polymorphisms (SNPs) and CCT.

11 Results: Genome-wide association analysis for CCT identified strongest association between
12 SNPs located on chromosome 22 in the first intron of *WNT7B* and CCT (top SNP rs9330813; β
13 $= -0.57$, 95%CI: $-0.78, -0.36$; $P = 1.7 \times 10^{-7}$). We further investigated rs9330813 in a Latino cohort
14 and 4 independent European cohorts. A meta-analysis of these datasets demonstrated
15 statistically significant association between rs9330813 and CCT ($\beta = -3.94$, 95%CI: $-5.23, -2.66$;
16 $P = 1.7 \times 10^{-9}$). *WNT7B* SNPs located in the same genomic region that includes rs9330813 have
17 been associated with CCT in Latinos but with other ocular quantitative traits related to myopia
18 (corneal curvature and axial length) in a Japanese population (rs10453441 and rs200329677).
19 To evaluate the specificity of the observed *WNT7B* association with CCT in the South Indian
20 families we completed an ocular phenome-wide association study (PheWAS) for the top
21 *WNT7B* SNPs using 45 ocular traits measured in these same families including corneal
22 curvature and axial length. The ocular PheWAS results indicate that in the South Indian families
23 *WNT7B* SNPs are primarily associated with CCT.

- 1 Conclusion: Overall, we provide robust evidence for an association between *WNT7B* SNPs and
- 2 CCT, and suggest that *WNT7B* SNPs can have population-specific effects on ocular quantitative
- 3 traits.

1 INTRODUCTION

2 Ocular quantitative traits such as central corneal thickness (CCT), axial length and
3 intraocular pressure are heritable intermediate phenotypes (endophenotypes) for common
4 complex eye disorders such as keratoconus, myopia and glaucoma¹. CCT is a highly heritable
5 ocular quantitative trait with up to 95% of its phenotypic variance due to genetics². Thin CCT is
6 related to several diseases of the cornea, especially keratoconus³ and brittle corneal
7 syndrome⁴. Very thin corneas are a hallmark of Ehlers Danlos⁵ and thicker than normal corneas
8 are found in patients with aniridia⁶. Thinner than average CCT can influence development of
9 primary open angle glaucoma^{7,8} with more severe disease evident in people with thinner
10 corneas⁹⁻¹¹.

11 Central corneal thickness varies among ethnic populations with individuals of African
12 descent having lower values than European Caucasians and East Asians^{2,12,13}. Genome-wide
13 association studies in European Caucasians¹⁴⁻¹⁶, Asians^{14,17} and Hispanics¹⁸ have identified
14 *ZNF469*, *RXRA-COL5A1*, *COL8A2* and *FOXO1* among others as important loci contributing to
15 CCT. *RXRA-COL5A1* and *ZNF469* have been associated with CCT in most populations studied
16 while the associations of other loci (*COL8A2*, *FOXO1*) may be restricted to specific
17 populations¹⁹. Recently, *WNT7B* SNPs have been associated with CCT in Latinos²⁰, and
18 interestingly some of these same SNPs were associated with axial length and corneal
19 curvature, traits influencing myopic refractive error, in a Japanese population.²¹

20 Few genetic studies of ocular quantitative traits have been completed in individuals from
21 South India, a population with high prevalence of common ocular conditions, especially cataract
22 and glaucoma²²⁻²⁷. In Indian populations CCT is thinner than the average values for
23 Caucasians²² suggesting that CCT could be an important factor in the development of CCT-
24 related common ocular disorders in this population. To identify genetic risk loci for CCT in South
25 Indians we completed a family-based association study using large pedigrees, many with

1 consanguineous matings that are typical for this geographic region. For the top SNPs located in
2 the *WNT7B* region, we also completed a phenome-wide association study (PheWAS) to
3 examine the range of phenotypes associated with *WNT7B* SNPs in this South Indian population.

4 **MATERIALS and METHODS**

5 **Pedigrees and quantitative traits**

6 This study adhered to the tenets of the Declaration of Helsinki and has been reviewed and
7 approved by the Institutional Review Boards of Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary and
8 Medical Research Foundation, Sankara Nethralaya, Chennai, India. After obtaining written
9 informed consent, 197 individuals from 15 Indian pedigrees were recruited at Sankara
10 Nethralaya, Chennai, India. CCT was measured by an ultrasonic pachymeter in triplicate and
11 the average value was used. Methods to measure the other traits used in the PheWAS are
12 described in the Supplementary Methods. Collections of samples for replication cohorts are
13 described in the Supplementary Methods.

14 **Genotyping and quality control**

15 Genotyping for the South Indian families was performed at the Ocular Genomics Institute at the
16 Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary using the Illumina HumanOmni2.5-8 Beadchip kit
17 (2,379,855 markers, Illumina, Inc., San Diego, CA). Genotypes were called using
18 GenomeStudio (v2011.1, Illumina, Inc.). The genetic sex of all individuals was consistent with
19 the reported sex. Two samples were removed because genotyping call rates were <99%. The
20 average call rate per sample was >99.8%. Quality control (QC) for 2,352,697 (98.9%) well-
21 clustered SNPs was performed with PLINK (v1.07)²⁸. 25,088 (1.1%) SNPs with call frequency <
22 90% and 881,678 (37.5%) SNPs with minor allele frequency (MAF) < 0.01 were removed from
23 the analysis. 164,174 (7.0%) SNPs with Mendelian errors and 58,443 (2.5%) SNPs on
24 chromosome X or Y, or on the mitochondrial chromosome were also excluded. After QC,

1 1,223,314 SNPs were included in the final analysis. Genotyping for replication cohorts is
2 described in the Supplementary Methods.

3 **Statistical analysis**

4 The kinship coefficients for pairwise relationships across pedigrees were estimated from
5 the SNP data using the KING software²⁹. The heritability for each trait was estimated with
6 restricted maximum likelihood–based linear modeling in the GCTA software³⁰, taking into
7 account all pedigree relationships simultaneously. Inverse-normal transformation of ranks was
8 applied to CCT measurements before analysis. Age and sex were included as covariates in the
9 association tests. The genome-wide association test was performed using the score test in
10 MERLIN (v1.1.2)^{31,32}, which incorporated genetic relatedness based on the family structure.
11 Because this program applies a restriction on pedigree size, 8 of the 15 pedigrees were split
12 into non-overlapping fragments of ≤ 18 bits using the PedSTR program³³, which breaks
13 inbreeding loops and identifies sub-pedigrees having the maximal total relationship between
14 individuals of interest, resulting in a total of 26 effective sub-pedigrees used in the final analysis.
15 To avoid an excess of false-positive results in regions of strong linkage, the likelihood-ratio test
16 was performed to accurately evaluate the SNPs with suggestive association. The regional SNP
17 association plot was generated using SNAP³⁴. The variance in CCT explained by all the SNPs
18 in the Indian population was estimated using GCTA³⁰.

19 Meta-analysis using the inverse-variance weighting method was done using both fixed-
20 effects and random-effects models using Review Manager software (RevMan, version 5.3;
21 Copenhagen: The Nordic Cochrane Centre, The Cochrane Collaboration, 2014). The
22 heterogeneity between datasets was evaluated by heterogeneity index (I^2) and Cochran's Q
23 statistic³⁵. Heterogeneity among datasets was further examined by evaluating differences in
24 ethnicity (Indians, Latinos, or Europeans), study design (family-based design or case-control

1 design), imputation quality score, age and sex in meta-regression models using the R package
2 “metafor”³⁶. Forest plots were generated using the R package “metafor”³⁶.

3 **PheWAS**

4 45 quantitative traits (including CCT) (Supplementary Table 1) were analyzed for association as
5 described above. Methods for measuring each trait are described in the Supplementary
6 Methods. The average value for each trait for both eyes was used for analysis. Age and sex
7 were included as covariates in the association tests. The association tests were performed
8 using the likelihood-ratio test in MERLIN (v1.1.2)^{31,32}. The PheWAS plots were generated using
9 the R package ggplot2³⁷. Phenotypes were grouped along the x-axis by categorization of ocular
10 measures (Biometric traits, Corneal traits, Optic nerve traits, Refractive error traits). Each point
11 in the plot represents the $-\log_{10}(P)$ value of a trait measure in association analysis. The lower
12 grey dashed line indicates $P = 0.05$. The upper black dashed line indicates a single-SNP
13 Bonferroni correction $P = 0.001$ ($0.05/45$).

14 **Power analysis**

15 Power analysis was performed using the Genetic Power Calculator³⁸. The total proportion of
16 trait variance was derived from the estimated heritability of these ocular traits in the South
17 Indian pedigrees. For CCT, axial length (AXL) and corneal curvature heritability was 0.54, 0.84
18 and 0.82, respectively. The QTL increaser allele frequency was set to the same as the marker
19 allele frequency. Linkage disequilibrium between the QTL and the marker was set at $D' = 1.0$.
20 The sample size was set as 26 because a total of 26 effective sub-pedigrees were used in the
21 final analysis. The sibling correlation was set as 0.5. The sibship size was set as 2. An additive
22 effects only (1 df) test was used to calculate the power at the type I error rate of 5×10^{-8} for
23 GWAS or 0.001 ($0.05/45$ traits) for PheWAS. Power results for all traits are listed in
24 Supplementary Table 1.

1

2 RESULTS

3 Study sample

4 195 individuals from 15 pedigrees (Supplementary Figure 1) were recruited at Sankara
5 Nethralaya Eye Hospital, Chennai, India for a family-based genetic association study. These
6 pedigrees were unrelated to each other; the maximum kinship coefficient estimated from the
7 SNP data across pedigrees was 0.0344. The pedigree size ranged from 2 to 26 members. 10
8 of the pedigrees included at least one consanguineous mating. 58% of the subjects were
9 female and 42% male. The average age was 44.9 (± 15.0) years and the age ranged from 16-85
10 years. These families were not ascertained on specific eye conditions. CCT was measured by
11 an ultrasonic pachymeter in triplicate for each eye (Supplementary methods) and the average
12 value for both eyes was used (516.2 (± 30.2) μm average; 433 to 608 μm range; Supplementary
13 Table 1).

14 Genome-wide association results for CCT

15 After quality control, 1,223,314 SNPs were included in the genome-wide CCT analysis.
16 The results for the family-based association test are shown in Supplementary Figure 2. The
17 genomic inflation factor of 1.05 (QQ plot, Supplementary Figure 3) suggested that population
18 substructure or other confounding factors were not significant. Six SNPs located on
19 chromosomes 6, 13, 18 and 22 showed suggestive evidence of association with CCT ($P <$
20 1.0×10^{-5} ; Table 1), with the top SNP (rs9330813, $P = 1.7 \times 10^{-7}$, $\beta = -0.57$, 95%CI: -0.78, -0.36 [A])
21 located in the first intron of *WNT7B* on chromosome 22 (Figure 1). CCT association with
22 rs9330813 was two orders of magnitude greater than any other SNP (Table 1) and accounted
23 for 17% of the phenotypic variance in the South Indian families. *WNT7B* SNPs have previously
24 only been associated with CCT in a Latino population (MAGGS, Mexican American Glaucoma
25 Genetics Study)²⁰ and the top SNP in the Latino study (rs10453441), is 422 bp from rs9330813.

1 rs10453441 is in moderate linkage disequilibrium with rs9330813 in the South Indian dataset (r^2
2 = 0.55) and was nominally associated with CCT in the South Indian pedigrees ($P = 5.85 \times 10^{-4}$,
3 Supplementary Table 2).

4 To provide further support for the association of *WNT7B* with CCT in the South Indian
5 pedigrees, we investigated the association of rs9330813 in the Latino study cohort as well as in
6 4 independent European datasets (Figure 2). In addition we investigated association of
7 rs10453441 with CCT in an independent Singaporean Indian cohort, and 5 independent
8 European datasets (Supplementary Figure 4). The *WNT7B* SNPs were imputed from previous
9 genotype data for the European cohorts. For both rs9330813 and rs10453441 association with
10 CCT was evident with consistent direction of effects observed in all datasets with the exception
11 of one European cohort for rs10453441 (Supplemental Figure 4). For both SNPs, strongest
12 association was observed for the South Indian and MAGGS (Latinos) datasets, with smaller
13 effects in European cohorts (Figure 2, Supplemental Figure 4). Significant heterogeneity was
14 detected among datasets, due to imputation quality and study design (meta-regression $P =$
15 0.0001 and $P=0.02$ respectively). Limiting the meta-analysis to datasets with imputation scores
16 > 0.7 for each SNP reduced but did not completely eliminate heterogeneity (Figure 2,
17 Supplemental Figure 4). Because of the residual heterogeneity reverse inverse weighted meta-
18 analyses were completed using both fixed and random effects and investigated separately the
19 datasets with imputation scores > 0.7 for each SNP. Using the fixed effects model, significant
20 association was observed for CCT and rs9330813 [A] ($P= 1.7 \times 10^{-9}$, $\beta = -3.94$, 95%CI: -5.23,-
21 2.66; Figure 2), and rs10453441 [G] ($P=2.20 \times 10^{-11}$, $\beta= -3.11$, 95%CI: -4.02, -2.02, Supplemental
22 Figure 4). Evidence for association improved using only the datasets with imputation scores $>$
23 0.7: rs9330813[A] ($P= 5.0 \times 10^{-12}$, $\beta = -5.59$, 95%CI: -7.17,- 4.00; Figure 2), and rs10453441 [G]
24 ($P=5.3 \times 10^{-12}$, $\beta= -3.43$, 95%CI: -4.40, -2.45, Supplemental Figure 4). Reduced but consistent
25 association was observed using the random effects model for both SNPs: rs9330813 [A]

1 (P=7.0x10⁻³, β = -8.00, 95%CI: -13.85, -2.15); rs10453441 [G] (P=1.0x10⁻⁴, β= -3.44, 95%CI: -
2 5.21,-1.68).

3 The top *WNT7B* SNP, rs9330813 is in strong equilibrium with rs9723267, (r² = 0.96 and
4 1.0 in the South Indian dataset and 1000 Genomes, Haploreg v.4.1, respectively), that disrupts
5 a Rad21 binding motif and a CTCF (CCCTC-binding factor) binding site as well as other
6 transcription factor binding sites (RegulomeDB, Supplementary Figure 5) suggesting a role in
7 regulation of gene expression. The region of intron 1 that includes the *WNT7B* SNPs associated
8 with CCT contains multiple DNaseI hypersensitivity sites and features of enhancers as
9 annotated by ENCODE in multiple cell types (Supplementary Figure 5).

10 In the South Indian family dataset we also replicated association (P<0.005) with a
11 number of loci previously associated with CCT including *RXRA-COL5A1*¹⁶, *ZNF469*¹⁵, *GPR15*¹³
12 and *GLT8D2*¹³, although none of these associations were as significant as those observed for
13 the *WNT7B* SNPs in this population (Supplementary Table 3). It was estimated that 53.8% of
14 the variance in CCT was explained by all the CCT-associated SNPs in this Indian population.

15 We also investigated the association of the *WNT7B* SNPs associated with CCT in this
16 study with primary open angle glaucoma (POAG) in our NEIGHBORHOOD European
17 Caucasian dataset of 3853 cases and 33480 controls³⁹. However, similar to other studies¹⁴ we
18 did not find evidence for association of these SNPs with POAG (P>0.05).

19 **PheWAS**

20 Recently SNPs also located in this same region of the first intron of *WNT7B* have been
21 associated with two other ocular quantitative traits, corneal curvature and axial length, in a
22 GWAS using a Japanese population²¹. The lead SNP in the Japanese study, rs10453441 is the
23 same SNP associated with CCT in the Latino study²⁰ located 422 bp from rs9330813, the lead
24 SNP in the South Indian pedigrees (Supplementary Figure 5). To determine if the *WNT7B*

1 association in our dataset was specific for CCT we performed an age- and sex-adjusted
2 PheWAS (Phenotype-wide association study) using association data for 45 ocular quantitative
3 traits measured in the same families used for the CCT analysis (see Supplementary Table 1 for
4 complete list of traits), including axial length and corneal curvature, the two traits associated
5 with the *WNT7B* SNP rs10453441 in the Japanese study²¹. For the PheWAS, we investigated
6 the top 3 *WNT7B* SNPs (rs9330813, rs9723267 and rs75159625) from our data (Supplementary
7 Table 2) and also the top 2 SNPs in the Japanese study (rs10453441 and rs200329677). Four
8 of these SNPs are preferentially associated with CCT in the South Indian sample (the remaining
9 SNP, rs200329677, was not significantly associated with CCT or any other trait in this dataset)
10 (Figure 3, Supplementary Figure 6). In the South Indian dataset, the PheWAS data did not
11 support significant association of any *WNT7B* SNP with any trait other than CCT ($P > 0.001$)
12 including axial length or corneal curvature as was observed in the Japanese study (Figure 3,
13 Supplementary Figure 6) despite having sufficient power ($>99.9\%$) for axial length and corneal
14 curvature to detect the associations previously described (Supplementary Table 1).

15 **DISCUSSION**

16 This is the first GWAS for CCT in individuals residing in Southern India, a population at
17 increased risk for blinding ocular disorders^{27,40}. In this family-based study that included large
18 consanguineous pedigrees we identified association of CCT with *WNT7B* SNPs located in an
19 apparent regulatory region likely to impact gene expression. Pedigrees with consanguineous
20 matings are known to have added power for genetic studies of recessive traits. In this study we
21 have shown that consanguineous families can also provide genetic insights leading to discovery
22 of loci for quantitative traits. The CCT boxplot for three genotypes of top SNP rs9330813 was
23 consistent with an additive model in this South Indian dataset (Supplementary Figure 7). We
24 estimated that we had at least 82% power to detect the associations between these *WNT7B*
25 SNPs and CCT in this South Indian dataset.

1 *WNT7B* codes for a member of the Wnt family of proteins that have critical roles in cell
2 growth, patterning and differentiation of multiple tissues and organs⁴¹. The canonical WNT
3 signaling pathway that includes *WNT7b* (the product of *WNT7B*) is known to contribute to stem
4 cell proliferation in development⁴². In the eye *WNT7B* has been shown to have increased
5 expression in the central cornea and may also be necessary for corneal limbal stem cell
6 development⁴³. Interestingly a rare exonic variant in another WNT family member, *WNT10A*,
7 has also been associated with central corneal thickness in a quantitative trait study of European
8 Caucasians⁴⁴.

9 The *WNT7B* SNPs associated with CCT are located in the first intron of the gene in a
10 region with multiple DNaseI hypersensitivity sites and enhancers as annotated by ENCODE.
11 The top SNP is in strong linkage disequilibrium with rs9723267 that impacts Rad21 and CTCF
12 (CCCTC-binding factor) binding sites. Rad21 is one of the subunits of the cohesin complex that
13 together with CTCF associates with active enhancers and promoters forming long-range
14 interactions important for gene regulation⁴⁵. Rad21 and CTCF activity is highest when a general
15 transcription factor (TBP) binding site is also nearby⁴⁶ as is the case in the *WNT7B* region
16 associated with CCT (Supplementary Figure 5), suggesting that genetic variants in this region
17 could impact gene expression.

18 In addition to the association between *WNT7B* and CCT we also confirmed association
19 with several other loci previously associated with CCT in other populations, in particular *ZNF469*
20 and *RXRA-COL5A1*. Genomic association studies have now been completed for CCT in a
21 variety of ethnic populations including European Caucasians¹³⁻¹⁶, Asians¹⁷ and Latinos^{18,20}.
22 Evidence for association of CCT with *ZNF469* and *RXRA-COL5A1* has been found in most
23 populations, while other CCT loci such as *COL8A2*, significantly associated in Asians¹⁷, may be
24 restricted to specific populations¹⁹. Our study suggests that *WNT7B* is an important locus for
25 CCT in the South Indian population.

1 *WNT7B* SNPs may also contribute to other ocular phenotypes. In a study conducted in
2 Japanese, SNPs in the same genomic region associated with CCT in our study were associated
3 with AXL and corneal curvature, ocular quantitative traits related to refractive error and
4 myopia²¹. We have previously measured 45 quantitative traits in the collection of Indian
5 pedigrees used for this study including AXL, corneal curvature and refractive error. This
6 collection of quantitative trait data made it possible to complete an ocular PheWAS for the
7 *WNT7B* SNPs associated with CCT in our study and the *WNT7B* SNPs associated with AXL
8 and corneal curvature in the Japanese study. Understanding the range of phenotypic
9 consequences of DNA sequence variants may provide insights into the mechanisms by which a
10 variant or gene leads to disease. The PheWAS approach can test the association of a disease-
11 associated variant with a broad range of phenotypes.⁴⁸⁻⁵⁰ We found that in the South Indian
12 population the *WNT7B* SNPs are specifically associated with CCT and did not show evidence of
13 association with any other traits, including those related to myopia and refractive error. While
14 the Japanese study did not specifically interrogate association with CCT, it appears that the
15 *WNT7B* SNPs can be associated with additional or different traits in the Japanese population.
16 The opportunity to complete a PheWAS to evaluate the association of the *WNT7B* SNPs with a
17 broad range of ocular phenotypes was a strength of our study.

18 In summary our family-based association analysis using South Indian pedigrees has
19 identified *WNT7B* as a locus for CCT in this population and an ocular PheWAS conducted in the
20 same dataset showed that the *WNT7B* association is specific for this trait in these South Indian
21 pedigrees. *WNT7B* is known to be associated with CCT in a Latino population²⁰ but has not
22 been previously shown to be a CCT locus in Asians or European Caucasians suggesting that
23 genomic studies in specific ethnic populations can uncover new loci for complex traits that
24 provide additional insights into the underlying genetic architecture of these common conditions.

25 **Acknowledgements**

1 This work was supported by NIH/NEI grants R21EY018149 (JLW), R01EY027129 (JLW),
2 P30EY014104 (JLW) and R01EY022651 (XG), P30EY001792 (XG).

3 **Web Resources**

4 1000 Genomes Project Phase I v3 haplotypes

5 <http://csg.sph.umich.edu/abecasis/MACH/download/1000G.2012-03-14.html>

6 GCTA

7 <http://gcta.freeforums.net/>

8 Genetic Power Calculator

9 <http://pngu.mgh.harvard.edu/~purcell/gpc/>

10 HaploReg

11 <http://www.broadinstitute.org/mammals/haploreg/haploreg.php>

12 KING

13 <http://people.virginia.edu/~wc9c/KING/index.html>

14 MERLIN

15 <https://csg.sph.umich.edu/abecasis/Merlin/>

16 PedSTR

17 <http://mga.bionet.nsc.ru/soft/PedStr/PedStr.tar.gz>

18 PLINK

19 <http://pngu.mgh.harvard.edu/~purcell/plink/>

20 R

21 <https://www.r-project.org/>

22 RegulomeDB

23 <http://regulome.stanford.edu/>

24 SNAP

25 <http://archive.broadinstitute.org/mpg/snap/>

1 **Conflict of Interest Statement:**

2 On behalf of all authors, the corresponding author states that there is no conflict of interest.

3 **References**

- 4 1. Charlesworth J, Kramer PL, Dyer T, Diego V, Samples JR, Craig JE, Mackey DA, Hewitt
5 AW, Blangero J, Wirtz MK (2010) The path to open-angle glaucoma gene discovery:
6 endophenotypic status of intraocular pressure, cup-to-disc ratio, and central corneal
7 thickness. *Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci.* 51:3509-3514. doi: 10.1167/iovs.09-4786
- 8 2. Dimasi DP, Burdon KP, Craig JE (2010) The genetics of central corneal thickness. *Br J*
9 *Ophthalmol.*94:971–976. doi: 10.1136/bjo.2009.162735
- 10 3. Vincent AL, Jordan CA, Cadzow MJ, Merriman TR, McGhee CN (2014) Mutations in the zinc
11 finger protein gene, ZNF469, contribute to the pathogenesis of keratoconus. *Invest*
12 *Ophthalmol Vis Sci.* 55:5629-5635. doi: 10.1167/iovs.14-14532
- 13 4. Lu Y, Dimasi DP, Hysi PG, Hewitt AW, Burdon KP, Toh T, Ruddle JB, Li YJ, Mitchell P,
14 Healey PR, Montgomery GW, Hansell N, Spector TD, Martin NG, Young TL, Hammond CJ,
15 Macgregor S, Craig JE, Mackey DA (2010) Common genetic variants near the Brittle
16 Cornea Syndrome locus ZNF469 influence the blinding disease risk factor central corneal
17 thickness. *PLoS Genet.* 6:e1000947. DOI: 10.1371/journal.pgen.1000947
- 18 5. Villani E, Garoli E, Bassotti A, Magnani F, Tresoldi L, Nucci P, Ratiglia R (2013) The cornea
19 in classic type Ehlers-Danlos syndrome: macro- and microstructural changes. *Invest*
20 *Ophthalmol Vis Sci.* 54:8062-8068. DOI: 10.1167/iovs.13-12837
- 21 6. Brandt JD, Casuso LA, Budenz DL (2004) Markedly increased central corneal thickness: an
22 unrecognized finding in congenital aniridia. *Am J Ophthalmol.* 137:348–350. DOI:
23 10.1016/j.ajo.2003.09.038
- 24 7. Jiang X, Varma R, Wu S, Torres M, Azen SP, Francis BA, Chopra V, Nguyen BB; Los
25 Angeles Latino Eye Study Group (2012) Baseline risk factors that predict the development
26 of open-angle glaucoma in a population: the Los Angeles Latino Eye Study. *Ophthalmology.*
27 119:2245-2253. DOI: 10.1016/j.ophtha.2012.05.030
- 28 8. Gordon MO, Beiser JA, Brandt JD, Heuer DK, Higginbotham EJ, Johnson CA, Keltner JL,
29 Miller JP, Parrish RK 2nd, Wilson MR, Kass MA (2002) The Ocular Hypertension Treatment
30 Study: baseline factors that predict the onset of primary open-angle glaucoma. *Arch*
31 *Ophthalmol.*120:714–720.
- 32 9. Shah H, Kniestedt C, Bostrom A, Stamper R, Lin S (2007) Role of central corneal thickness
33 on baseline parameters and progression of visual fields in open angle glaucoma. *Eur J*
34 *Ophthalmol.* Jul-Aug;17:545-549.
- 35 10. Kniestedt C, Lin S, Choe J, Nee M, Bostrom A, Stürmer J, Stamper RL (2006) Correlation
36 between intraocular pressure, central corneal thickness, stage of glaucoma, and

- 1 demographic patient data: prospective analysis of biophysical parameters in tertiary
2 glaucoma practice populations. *J Glaucoma*.15:91-97.
- 3 11. Jonas JB, Stroux A, Velten I, Juenemann A, Martus P, Budde WM (2005) Central corneal
4 thickness correlated with glaucoma damage and rate of progression. *Invest Ophthalmol Vis*
5 *Sci*. 46:1269-1274. DOI: 10.1167/iovs.04-0265
- 6 12. Dimasi DP, Hewitt AW, Kagame K, Ruvama S, Tindyebwa L, Llamas B, Kirk KA, Mitchell P,
7 Burdon KP, Craig JE (2011) Ethnic and mouse strain differences in central corneal
8 thickness and association with pigmentation phenotype. *PLoS One*. 6:e22103. DOI:
9 10.1371/journal.pone.0022103
- 10 13. Chua J, Tham YC, Liao J, Zheng Y, Aung T, Wong TY, Cheng CY (2014) Ethnic differences
11 of intraocular pressure and central corneal thickness: the Singapore Epidemiology of Eye
12 Diseases study. *Ophthalmology*. 121:2013-2022. DOI: 10.1016/j.ophtha.2014.04.041
- 13 14. Lu Y, Vitart V, Burdon KP, Khor CC, Bykhovskaya Y, Mirshahi A, Hewitt AW, Koehn D, Hysi
14 PG, Ramdas WD, Zeller T, Vithana EN, Cornes BK, Tay WT, Tai ES, Cheng CY, Liu J, Foo
15 JN, Saw SM, Thorleifsson G, Stefansson K, Dimasi DP, Mills RA, Mountain J, Ang W,
16 Hoehn R, Verhoeven VJ, Grus F, Wolfs R, Castagne R, Lackner KJ, Springelkamp H, Yang
17 J, Jonasson F, Leung DY, Chen LJ, Tham CC, Rudan I, Vataavuk Z, Hayward C, Gibson J,
18 Cree AJ, MacLeod A, Ennis S, Polasek O, Campbell H, Wilson JF, Viswanathan AC, Fleck
19 B, Li X, Siscovick D, Taylor KD, Rotter JI, Yazar S, Ulmer M, Li J, Yaspan BL, Ozel AB,
20 Richards JE, Moroi SE, Haines JL, Kang JH, Pasquale LR, Allingham RR, Ashley-Koch A;
21 NEIGHBOR Consortium, Mitchell P, Wang JJ, Wright AF, Pennell C, Spector TD, Young TL,
22 Klaver CC, Martin NG, Montgomery GW, Anderson MG, Aung T, Willoughby CE, Wiggs JL,
23 Pang CP, Thorsteinsdottir U, Lotery AJ, Hammond CJ, van Duijn CM, Hauser MA,
24 Rabinowitz YS, Pfeiffer N, Mackey DA, Craig JE, Macgregor S, Wong TY(2013) Genome-
25 wide association analyses identify multiple loci associated with central corneal thickness and
26 keratoconus. *Nat Genet*. 45:155-163. DOI: 10.1038/ng.2506
- 27 15. Lu Y, Dimasi DP, Hysi PG, Hewitt AW, Burdon KP, Toh T, Ruddle JB, Li YJ, Mitchell P,
28 Healey PR, Montgomery GW, Hansell N, Spector TD, Martin NG, Young TL, Hammond CJ,
29 Macgregor S, Craig JE, Mackey DA (2010) Common genetic variants near the Brittle Cornea
30 Syndrome locus ZNF469 influence the blinding disease risk factor central corneal thickness.
31 *PLoS Genet*. 6:e1000947. DOI: 10.1371/journal.pgen.1000947
- 32 16. Vitart V, Bencić G, Hayward C, Skunca Herman J, Huffman J, Campbell S, Bućan K,
33 Navarro P, Gunjaca G, Marin J, Zgaga L, Kolčić I, Polasek O, Kirin M, Hastie ND, Wilson JF,
34 Rudan I, Campbell H, Vataavuk Z, Fleck B, Wright A (2010) New loci associated with central
35 cornea thickness include COL5A1, AKAP13 and AVGR8. *Hum Mol Genet*. 19:4304-4311.
36 DOI: 10.1093/hmg/ddq349
- 37 17. Vithana EN, Aung T, Khor CC, Cornes BK, Tay WT, Sim X, Lavanya R, Wu R, Zheng Y,
38 Hibberd ML, Chia KS, Seielstad M, Goh LK, Saw SM, Tai ES, Wong TY (2011) Collagen-

- 1 related genes influence the glaucoma risk factor, central corneal thickness. *Hum Mol Genet.*
2 20:649-658. DOI: 10.1093/hmg/ddq511
- 3 18. Gao X, Gauderman WJ, Liu Y, Marjoram P, Torres M, Haritunians T, Kuo JZ, Chen YD,
4 Allingham RR, Hauser MA, Taylor KD, Rotter JI, Varma R (2013) A genome-wide
5 association study of central corneal thickness in Latinos. *Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci.*
6 54:2435-2443. DOI: 10.1167/iovs.13-11692
- 7 19. Hoehn R, Zeller T, Verhoeven VJ, Grus F, Adler M, Wolfs RC, Uitterlinden AG, Castagne R,
8 Schillert A, Klaver CC, Pfeiffer N, Mirshahi A (2012) Population-based meta-analysis in
9 Caucasians confirms association with COL5A1 and ZNF469 but not COL8A2 with central
10 corneal thickness. *Hum Genet.* 131:1783-1793. DOI: 10.1007/s00439-012-1201-3
- 11 20. Gao X, Nannini DR, Corrao K, Torres M, Chen YI, Fan BJ, Wiggs JL; International
12 Glaucoma Genetics Consortium., Taylor KD, Gauderman WJ, Rotter JI, Varma R (2016)
13 Genome-wide association study identifies WNT7B as a novel locus for central corneal
14 thickness in Latinos. *Hum Mol Genet.* pii: ddw319. [Epub ahead of print]
- 15 21. Miyake M, Yamashiro K, Tabara Y, Suda K, Morooka S, Nakanishi H, Khor CC, Chen P,
16 Qiao F, Nakata I, Akagi-Kurashige Y, Gotoh N, Tsujikawa A, Meguro A, Kusuhara S,
17 Polasek O, Hayward C, Wright AF, Campbell H, Richardson AJ, Schache M, Takeuchi M,
18 Mackey DA, Hewitt AW, Cuellar G, Shi Y, Huang L, Yang Z, Leung KH, Kao PY, Yap MK,
19 Yip SP, Moriyama M, Ohno-Matsui K, Mizuki N, MacGregor S, Vitart V, Aung T, Saw SM,
20 Tai ES, Wong TY, Cheng CY, Baird PN, Yamada R, Matsuda F; Nagahama Study Group,
21 Yoshimura N (2015) Identification of myopia-associated WNT7B polymorphisms provides
22 insights into the mechanism underlying the development of myopia. *Nat Commun.* 6:6689.
23 DOI: 10.1038/ncomms7689
- 24 22. Philomenadin FS, Asokan R, N V, George R, Lingam V, Sarangapani S (2015) Genetic
25 association of SNPs near ATOH7, CARD10, CDKN2B, CDC7 and SIX1/SIX6 with the
26 endophenotypes of primary open angle glaucoma in Indian population. *PLoS One.*
27 10(3):e0119703. DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0119703
- 28 23. Vijaya L, Rashima A, Panday M, Choudhari NS, Ramesh SV, Lokapavani V, Boddupalli SD,
29 Sunil GT, George R (2014) Predictors for incidence of primary open-angle glaucoma in a
30 South Indian population: the Chennai eye disease incidence study. *Ophthalmology.*
31 121:1370-1376. DOI: 10.1016/j.ophtha.2014.01.014
- 32 24. Panday M, George R, Asokan R, Ramesh SV, Velumuri L, Choudhari NS, Boddupalli SD,
33 Sunil GT, Vijaya L (2015) Six-year incidence of ocular hypertension in a South Indian
34 population: the Chennai eye disease incidence study. *Br J Ophthalmol.* 99:604-608. doi:
35 10.1136/bjophthalmol-2014-305714.
- 36 25. Bourne RR, Stevens GA, White RA, Smith JL, Flaxman SR, Price H, Jonas JB, Keeffe J,
37 Leasher J, Naidoo K, Pesudovs K, Resnikoff S, Taylor HR; Vision Loss Expert Group (2013)
38 Causes of vision loss worldwide, 1990-2010: a systematic analysis. *Lancet Glob Health.*
39 1(6):e339-349. DOI: 10.1016/S2214-109X(13)70113-X

- 1 26. Vijaya L, Asokan R, Panday M, Choudhari NS, Ramesh SV, Velumuri L, Boddupalli SD,
2 Sunil GT, George R (2014) Baseline risk factors for incidence of blindness in a South Indian
3 population: the chennai eye disease incidence study. *Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci.* 55:5545-
4 5550. doi: 10.1167/iov.14-14614.
- 5 27. Vijaya L, George R, Asokan R, Velumuri L, Ramesh SV (2014) Prevalence and causes of
6 low vision and blindness in an urban population: The Chennai Glaucoma Study. *Indian J*
7 *Ophthalmol.* 62:477-481. doi: 10.4103/0301-4738.111186.
- 8 28. Purcell S, Neale B, Todd-Brown K, Thomas L, Ferreira MA, Bender D, Maller J, Sklar P, de
9 Bakker PI, Daly MJ, Sham PC (2007) PLINK: a tool set for whole-genome association and
10 population-based linkage analyses. *Am J Hum Genet.* 81(3):559-575. DOI:
11 10.1086/519795
- 12 29. Manichaikul A, Mychaleckyj JC, Rich SS, Daly K, Sale M, Chen WM (2010) Robust
13 relationship inference in genome-wide association studies. *Bioinformatics.* 26(22):2867-
14 2873.
- 15 30. Yang J, Benyamin B, McEvoy BP, Gordon S, Henders AK, Nyholt DR, Madden PA, Heath
16 AC, Martin NG, Montgomery GW, Goddard ME, Visscher PM (2010) Common SNPs explain
17 a large proportion of the heritability for human height. *Nat Genet.* 42(7):565-569.
- 18 31. Abecasis GR, Cherny SS, Cookson WO, Cardon LR (2002) Merlin-rapid analysis of dense
19 genetic maps using sparse gene flow trees. *Nat Genet.* 30:97-101.
- 20 32. Chen WM, Abecasis GR (2007) Family-based association tests for genomewide association
21 scans. *Am J Hum Genet.* 81(5):913-926.
- 22 33. Kirichenko AV, Belonogova NM, Aulchenko YS, Axenovich TI (2009) PedStr software for
23 cutting large pedigrees for haplotyping, IBD computation and multipoint linkage analysis.
24 *Ann Hum Genet.* 73(Pt 5):527-531.
- 25 34. Johnson AD, Handsaker RE, Pulit SL, Nizzari MM, O'Donnell CJ, de Bakker PI (2008)
26 SNAP: a web-based tool for identification and annotation of proxy SNPs using HapMap.
27 *Bioinformatics.* 24(24):2938-2939. DOI: 10.1093/bioinformatics/btn564
- 28 35. Higgins JP, Thompson SG, Deeks JJ, Altman DG (2003) Measuring inconsistency in meta-
29 analyses. *BMJ.* 327:557-560.
- 30 36. Viechtbauer W (2010) Conducting meta-analyses in R with the metafor package. *Journal of*
31 *Statistical Software* 36(3):1-48.
- 32 37. Wickham H. *ggplot2: elegant graphics for data analysis.* Springer New York, 2009.
- 33 38. Purcell S, Cherny SS, Sham PC (2003) Genetic Power Calculator: design of linkage and
34 association genetic mapping studies of complex traits. *Bioinformatics.* 19(1):149-150.
- 35 39. Bailey JN, Loomis SJ, Kang JH, Allingham RR, Gharahkhani P, Khor CC, Burdon KP,
36 Aschard H, Chasman DI, Igo RP Jr, Hysi PG, Glastonbury CA, Ashley-Koch A, Brilliant M,

- 1 Brown AA, Budenz DL, Buil A, Cheng CY, Choi H, Christen WG, Curhan G, De Vivo I,
2 Fingert JH, Foster PJ, Fuchs C, Gaasterland D, Gaasterland T, Hewitt AW, Hu F, Hunter DJ,
3 Khawaja AP, Lee RK, Li Z, Lichter PR, Mackey DA, McGuffin P, Mitchell P, Moroi SE,
4 Perera SA, Pepper KW, Qi Q, Realini T, Richards JE, Ridker PM, Rimm E, Ritch R, Ritchie
5 M, Schuman JS, Scott WK, Singh K, Sit AJ, Song YE, Tamimi RM, Topouzis F,
6 Viswanathan AC, Verma SS, Vollrath D, Wang JJ, Weisschuh N, Wissinger B, Wollstein G,
7 Wong TY, Yaspan BL, Zack DJ, Zhang K, Study EN; ANZRAG Consortium, Weinreb RN,
8 Pericak-Vance MA, Small K, Hammond CJ, Aung T, Liu Y, Vithana EN, MacGregor S, Craig
9 JE, Kraft P, Howell G, Hauser MA, Pasquale LR, Haines JL, Wiggs JL (2016) Genome-wide
10 association analysis identifies TXNRD2, ATXN2 and FOXC1 as susceptibility loci for primary
11 open-angle glaucoma. *Nat Genet.* 48:189-194. doi: 10.1038/ng.3482.
- 12 40. Thulasiraj RD, Nirmalan PK, Ramakrishnan R, Krishnadas R, Manimekalai TK, Baburajan
13 NP, Katz J, Tielsch JM, Robin AL(2003) Blindness and vision impairment in a rural south
14 Indian population: the Aravind Comprehensive Eye Survey. *Ophthalmology.* 110:1491-1498.
- 15 41. Bengoa-Vergniory N, Kypta RM (2015) Canonical and noncanonical Wnt signaling in neural
16 stem/progenitor cells. *Cell Mol Life Sci.* 72(21):4157-4172.
- 17 42. Famili F, Brugman MH, Taskesen E, Naber BE, Fodde R, Staal FJ (2016) High Levels of
18 Canonical Wnt Signaling Lead to Loss of Stemness and Increased Differentiation in
19 Hematopoietic Stem Cells. *Stem Cell Reports.* 6(5):652-659. DOI:
20 10.1016/j.stemcr.2016.04.009
- 21 43. Nakatsu MN, Ding Z, Ng MY, Truong TT, Yu F, Deng SX (2011) Wnt/ β -catenin signaling
22 regulates proliferation of human cornea epithelial stem/progenitor cells. *Invest Ophthalmol*
23 *Vis Sci.*52:4734-4741. DOI: 10.1167/iovs.10-6486
- 24 44. Cuellar-Partida G, Springelkamp H, Lucas SE, Yazar S, Hewitt AW, Iglesias AI, Montgomery
25 GW, Martin NG, Pennell CE, van Leeuwen EM, Verhoeven VJ, Hofman A, Uitterlinden AG,
26 Ramdas WD, Wolfs RC, Vingerling JR, Brown MA, Mills RA, Craig JE, Klaver CC, van Duijn
27 CM, Burdon KP, MacGregor S, Mackey DA (2015) WNT10A exonic variant increases the
28 risk of keratoconus by decreasing corneal thickness. *Hum Mol Genet.* 24:5060-5068. DOI:
29 10.1093/hmg/ddv211
- 30 45. Seitan VC, Faure AJ, Zhan Y, McCord RP, Lajoie BR, Ing-Simmons E, Lenhard B, Giorgetti
31 L, Heard E, Fisher AG, Flicek P, Dekker J, Merkenschlager M (2013) Cohesin-based
32 chromatin interactions enable regulated gene expression within preexisting architectural
33 compartments. *Genome Res.*23:2066-2077. DOI: 10.1101/gr.161620.113
- 34 46. Roy S, Siahpirani AF, Chasman D, Knaack S, Ay F, Stewart R, Wilson M, Sridharan R
35 (2015) A predictive modeling approach for cell line-specific long-range regulatory
36 interactions. *Nucleic Acids Res.*43:8694-8712. doi: 10.1093/nar/gkv1181.
- 37 47. Genetic analysis in UK Biobank links insulin resistance and transendothelial migration
38 pathways to coronary artery disease.

1

- 2 48. Klarin D, Zhu QM, Emdin CA, Chaffin M, Horner S, McMillan BJ, Leed A, Weale ME,
3 Spencer CCA, Aguet F, Segrè AV, Ardlie KG, Khera AV, Kaushik VK, Natarajan P;
4 CARDIoGRAMplusC4D Consortium, Kathiresan S. Nat Genet. 2017 Jul 17. doi:
5 10.1038/ng.3914. [Epub ahead of print]
- 6 49. Denny JC, Bastarache L, Roden DM. Phenome-Wide Association Studies as a Tool to
7 Advance Precision Medicine. Annu Rev Genomics Hum Genet. 2016 Aug 31;17:353-73. doi:
8 10.1146/annurev-genom-090314-024956. Epub 2016 May 4.
- 9 50. Denny JC, Bastarache L, Ritchie MD, Carroll RJ, Zink R, Mosley JD, Field JR, Pulley JM,
10 Ramirez AH, Bowton E, Basford MA, Carrell DS, Peissig PL, Kho AN, Pacheco JA,
11 Rasmussen LV, Crosslin DR, Crane PK, Pathak J, Bielinski SJ, Pendergrass SA, Xu H,
12 Hindorff LA, Li R, Manolio TA, Chute CG, Chisholm RL, Larson EB, Jarvik GP, Brilliant MH,
13 McCarty CA, Kullo IJ, Haines JL, Crawford DC, Masys DR, Roden DM. Systematic
14 comparison of phenome-wide association study of electronic medical record data and
15 genome-wide association study data. Nat Biotechnol. 2013 Dec;31(12):1102-10.

16

17 **Figure Legends**

18

19 **Figure 1. Regional SNP association plot for the 22q13 region.** A region of 408 kb around the
20 top SNP (rs9330813) is displayed. The degree of LD between the top SNP and any SNP tested
21 is indicated by red shading. The recombination rate is displayed by a blue line with scale on the
22 right-hand axis. Characterized genes in the region are represented with a green bar. The *P*
23 value for rs9330813 (1.71×10^{-7}) is shown as a red diamond.

24

25 **Figure 2. Meta-analysis for rs9330813 and CCT.** Forest plot showing effect estimates for the
26 South Indian pedigree, as well as for the replication effort. Pooled estimates for β and 95%
27 confidence interval (95% CI) were calculated by fixed-effects, inverse variance weighting meta-
28 analysis. Reduced evidence of association but with similar effects was observed if the meta-
29 analysis was calculated using random effects: $P=7.0 \times 10^{-3}$, $\beta = -8.00$, 95%CI: -13.85, -3.15.
30 Individual dataset results are indicated by black squares and summary values are indicated by

1 black diamonds. Abbreviations: MAGGS, Mexican American Glaucoma Genetic Study;
2 ORCADES, Orkney Complex Disease Study; TwinsUK, UK Twin Study.

3

4 **Figure 3. PheWAS plot for the top SNP associated with CCT in the South Indian**

5 **population (rs9330813).** The association results for each measured trait (Supplementary

6 Table 1) for this SNP were plotted with the phenotypes (ocular traits) grouped along the x-axis

7 and the $-\log_{10}(P)$ value for association analysis on the y-axis. The phenotype group is

8 indicated by the color of the graph point as indicated by the side panel. The lower grey dashed

9 line indicates $P = 0.05$. The upper black dashed line indicates a single-SNP Bonferroni

10 correction for 45 traits, $P = 0.001$ ($0.05/45$). Abbreviations: CCT, central corneal thickness;

11 IOPg , intraocular pressure measured by Goldman applanation ; AXL, axial length; CRF,

12 corneal resistance factor; K_H, corneal curvature, horizontal; K_V, corneal curvature, vertical;

13 RNFL_VC, retinal nerve fiber layer curvature as measured by the (Heidelberg Retina

14 Tomograph and analyzed by using Glaucoma Probability Score (GPS). Other traits were not

15 labeled in these figures due to limited space. Categories are grouped according to

16 Supplementary Table 1.

Table 1. SNPs with $P < 1.0 \times 10^{-5}$ for association with CCT in South Indian pedigrees

SNP	Chr	Position ^a	Gene	A1/A2 ^b	MAF ^c	β ^d	s.e.	p
rs77747357	6	151377143	<i>MTHFD1L</i>	G/A	0.247	0.605	0.133	1.97×10^{-6}
rs67580603	13	90875539	<i>LINC00559- MIR622</i>	A/G	0.082	0.875	0.195	3.83×10^{-6}
rs10084050	18	28657553	<i>DSC2</i>	C/T	0.013	2.012	0.451	5.91×10^{-6}
rs9330813	22	46364161	<i>WNT7B</i>	A/G	0.495	-0.570	0.107	1.71×10^{-7}
rs9723267	22	46365557	<i>WNT7B</i>	T/G	0.495	-0.530	0.107	1.45×10^{-6}
rs75159625	22	46377008	<i>WNT7B</i>	C/A	0.497	-0.530	0.107	1.46×10^{-6}

^aGenomic positions are based on NCBI Build 37/hg19.

^bA1/A2, minor allele/common allele.

^cMAF, minor allele frequency.

^d β models the expected change in mean CCT per increase of one A1 allele.

Chr, chromosome; s.e, standard error.

rs9330813 (CEU)





