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# Diabetic Foveal Avascular Zone

Differences Between High Speed And High Resolution Scans  
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# Financial Disclosure

No relevant conflicts of interest to declare.

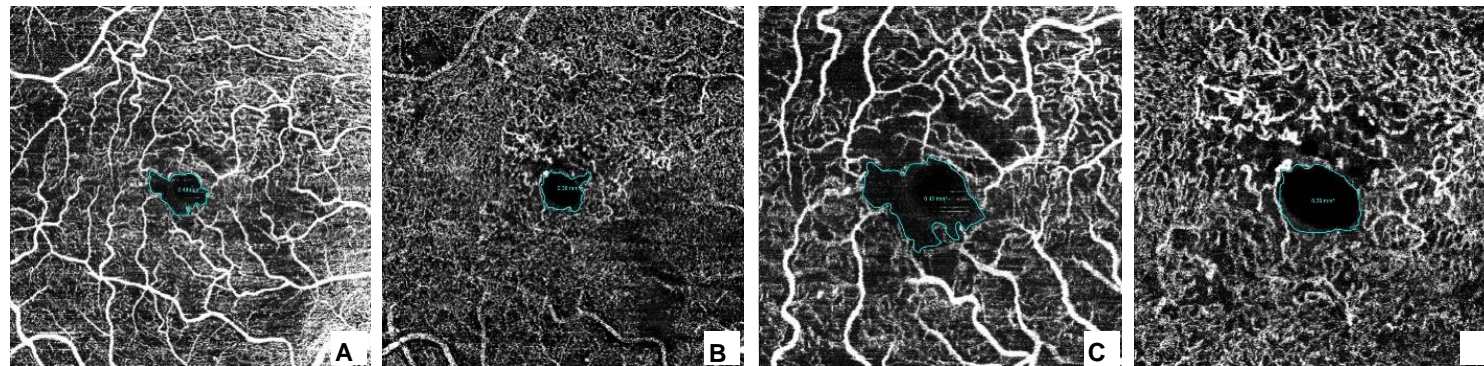
# Purpose

Diabetic Retinopathy is one of the causes of pathological increase of the Foveal Avascular Zone (FAZ) area and is assessable by optical coherence tomography angiography (OCTA).

Even using the same equipment, different acquisition protocols may lead to different results.

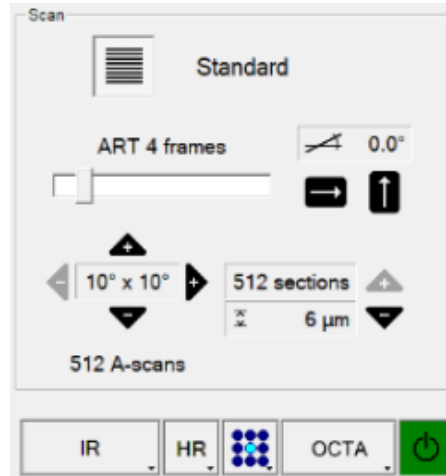
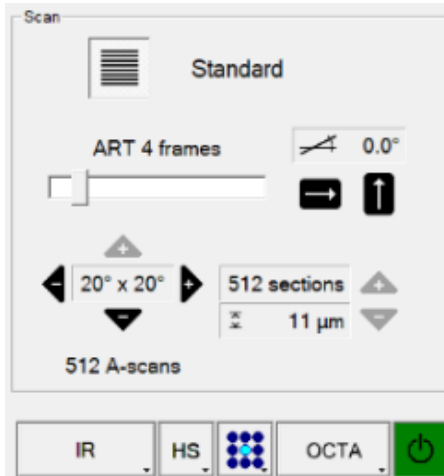
## AIM

To evaluate the differences in manual FAZ area measurements comparing two different OCTA acquisition protocols, High Speed (HS) versus High Resolution (HS).



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# Methods



A sample of 26 participants in a study regarding differential DNA methylation in persistent Diabetic Macular Edema were included.

Using Heidelberg Spectralis HRA+OCT2<sup>®</sup>, two fovea centered OCT-A scans were acquired, **10°x10° HR** and **20°x20° HS**.

# Methods

Two observers manually measured the FAZ area **twice** on each HR and HS scans using the area measurement tool in Heidelberg Eye Explorer software in auto-segmented:

- Superficial vascular complex (SVC)
- Deep vascular complex (DVC)

## DATA ANALYSIS

- Intra and Inter-observer variability was analyzed.
- Differences between the HS and HR FAZ area measurements were calculated,
- Intraclass Correlation Coefficients (ICC) was calculated.

# Results

			Difference (mm <sup>2</sup> )	95% CI (mm <sup>2</sup> )	P-value	ICC
Intra-Observer	HS	Observer 1	0,037 ± 0,098	<b>0,004; 0,069</b>	0,210 <sup>B</sup>	0,986
		Observer 2	0,010 ± 0,052	-0,007; 0,027	0,332 <sup>A</sup>	0,995
		Observer 1	0,005 ± 0,102	-0,029; 0,039	0,664 <sup>B</sup>	0,981
		Observer 2	-0,013 ± 0,045	-0,028; 0,002	0,263 <sup>B</sup>	0,996
	HR	Observer 1	0,006 ± 0,055	-0,013; 0,025	0,575 <sup>A</sup>	0,988
		Observer 2	-0,008 ± 0,044	-0,024; 0,006	0,332 <sup>A</sup>	0,990
		Observer 1	0,013 ± 0,042	-0,001; 0,027	0,454 <sup>B</sup>	0,991
		Observer 2	0,000 ± 0,064	-0,020; 0,020	0,115 <sup>B</sup>	0,979
Inter-Observer	HS	SVC	0,018 ± 0,207	-0,052; 0,088	0,671 <sup>A</sup>	0,930
		DVC	0,052 ± 0,314	-0,054; 0,158	0,581 <sup>C</sup>	0,755
	HR	SVC	0,082 ± 0,134	<b>0,038; 0,126</b>	<b>0,043<sup>B</sup></b>	0,884
		DVC	0,042 ± 0,125	-0,001; 0,085	0,678 <sup>B</sup>	0,907
HS vs HR	SVC	0,112 ± 0,268	<b>0,021; 0,203</b>	0,108 <sup>B</sup>	0,758	
	DVC	0,117 ± 0,250	<b>0,033; 0,201</b>	0,556 <sup>B</sup>	0,691	

Differences represented as Mean ± standard deviation; CI – Confidence Interval; ICC – Intraclass Correlation Coefficient; HS - High-Speed; HR - High-Resolution; SVC - Superficial vascular complex ; DVC - Deep vascular complex; A – Paired sample T-Test; B – Sign Test; C – Wilcoxon Signed-Rank Test.

# Results

- Differences between HS and HR were:
  - $0,112 \pm 0,053$  mm<sup>2</sup> in the SVC
  - $0,087 \pm 0,037$  mm<sup>2</sup> in the DVC
- **FAZ area measurement was higher in HS scans compared to HR scans.**
- **ICC is lower in the DVC (0,691), compared to SVC (0,758).**

# Conclusion

- Intra and inter-observer variability was almost null for both observers, for different vascular complexes using either HS or HR acquisition protocols.
- FAZ area measurement was higher using HS scans compared to HR scans
- Different acquisition protocols (different resolution) might impact FAZ area measurement

## Future directions

- Is a combination of SVC+DVC FAZ area more precise comparing HS and HR protocols?
- Are automated FAZ area measurement methods also resolution dependent?