Evaluation of the Unaffected Fellow Eye of Unilateral Exfoliation Syndrome and Exfoliative Glaucoma Eyes using Short Duration Transient Visual Evoked Potentials (SD-tVEP)

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Background
Exfoliation syndrome (XFS) is the most common identifiable cause of open-angle glaucoma worldwide.1 It is characterized by the production and progressive accumulation of fibrillar extracellular material in ocular tissue.2 XFS presents unilaterally in about two thirds of patients,2 and XFS eyes are more likely to have glaucomatous damage than eyes without XFS, independent of IOP.3 Diopsys NOVA VEP can discriminate normal subjects from glaucoma suspects and patients with visual field defects.5

Purpose
To evaluate the fellow eye of unilateral XFS and exfoliative glaucoma (XFG) patients using SD-tVEP in comparison to normal control eyes.

Methods
• The study population was divided into three age-matched groups:
  1) 15 randomly selected eyes of 15 normal control subjects (70.2±5.4 yr)
  2) 30 eyes of 15 unilateral XFS patients (73.9±6.0 yr)
  3) 30 eyes of 15 unilateral XFG patients (70.5±8.5 yr)

• Normal control subjects had corrected visual acuities of 20/30 or better with no clinical evidence of XFS nor XFG in both eyes.

• The non-exfoliative eye (fellow eye) of unilateral XFS and XFG patients had a corrected visual acuity of 20/30 or better with no clinical evidence of XFS or XFG.

• The fellow eye of the XFG patients did not have clinically evident XFS.

• SD-tVEP’s were recorded using the Diopsys NOVA VEP Vision Testing System (Diopsys, Inc. Pine Brook, NJ).

• XFS/XFG eyes and healthy eyes were compared using an area under the curve (AUC) analysis of the SD-tVEP parameters.

• 1 way ANOVA was performed using the SD-tVEP parameters to determine if significant differences existed between the XFS/XFG eye, the non-exfoliative fellow eye and normal control eye.

Results
• Significant differences were found between both XFS and XFG eyes and the normal control eyes using SD-tVEP parameters (p=0.01, p=0.03 respectively).

• Differences were detected between both XFS and XFG eyes to normal control eyes using the AUC analysis in both amplitude and latency, (Figure 3).

• The differences between both XFS and XFG fellow eyes and the normal control eyes approached significance (p=0.054, p=0.06).

• No significant difference was found between the XFS and XFG eye and fellow eye (p=0.43, p=0.21) nor was one found between the XFS and XFG eyes (p=0.39).

Conclusions
Short-duration transient VEP was able to detect differences between both XFG/XFS eyes and normal control eyes. We also found differences between the fellow eye of XFS/XFG and normal eyes, however the difference was not statistically significant. Further study with a larger number of patients is needed to confirm these preliminary findings.

References

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Disclosures
L. Lu, None; P. H. Derr, Diopsys, E; J. V. Jasien, None; A. Gonzalez-Garcia, Diopsys, E; C. Tello, Diopsys, C; J. Liebmann, Diopsys, C; R. Ritch, Diopsys, C.