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**PREVALENCE AND RISK FACTORS OF
PERIPHERAL RETINAL CHANGES IN THE
ELDERLY USING ULTRA-WIDE FIELD IMAGING :
THE ALIENOR STUDY**

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Professeur des Universités d' Ophtalmologie

Chef de service d'ophtalmologie

Chef de l'unité médicale de rétine, uvéites et neuro-ophtalmologie, CHU de Bordeaux

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Prevalence and risk factors of peripheral retinal changes in the elderly using ultra-wide field imaging: the ALIENOR study.

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ABSTRACT

Purpose:

To determine the prevalence and associated risk factors of peripheral retinal lesions resembling age-related macular degeneration (AMD) using ultra-wide field (UWF) imaging.

Methods

376 subjects, aged 75 years or more, underwent UWF imaging by Optomap P200C (Optos plc, United Kingdom) between 2009 and 2011. Presence of peripheral soft drusen, hard drusen, retinal pigment epithelial (RPE) changes, atrophy or choroidal neovascularisation (CNV) was graded at the Moorfields Eye Hospital Reading Center using a standardized grading protocol. Associations of these peripheral lesions with AMD (graded according to the international classification from non mydriatic colour retinal photographs) and AMD risk factors were estimated using Generalized Estimating Equation logistic regressions.

Results

61% of the participants had peripheral retinal lesions resembling AMD, 51% had peripheral soft drusen, 31.3% peripheral hard drusen, 12.2% peripheral RPE changes and 4.5% peripheral atrophy. There was no peripheral lesion like PED (pigment epithelial detachment) or CNV. After adjustment for age and gender, peripheral soft drusen were associated with atrophic AMD ($OR=4.66, p=0.0085$) while peripheral RPE changes were associated with neovascular AMD ($OR =4.12, p=0.014$). Peripheral soft drusen were positively associated with complement factor H (CFH) Y402 H polymorphism ($OR=1.85, p=0.008$ for TC genotype and $OR=2.47, p=0.01$ for CC) and negatively associated with high BMI ($OR= 0.47, p=0.02$).

Conclusions

Phenotyping peripheral changes with UWF imaging confirms the presence of widespread age-related changes outside the macular area, which are more frequent in subjects with AMD, as well as in subjects with genetic susceptibility to AMD, conferred by the CFH Y402 polymorphism.

Keywords: Scanning laser ophthalmoscope, Retinal wide-field imaging, Age-related macular degeneration.

Age-related macular degeneration (AMD) is the leading cause of blindness in industrialized countries (1,2) . It is a multifactorial degenerative disorder of the macula which distorts the central vision (3) and can cause severe visual impairments. There are two late AMD phenotypes, neovascular and atrophic AMD, generally preceded by several morphological changes (drusen and pigmentary abnormalities) called early AMD. Based on the EUREYE study (4), the prevalence of late AMD amongst the European elderly is estimated to be 3.32% and it is on the increase due to aging of the population and changes in environmental factors (5).

AMD has been described for over 100 years (Hutchison and Tay, 1875) and until now, attention has largely focused on macular changes as these are the leading reasons for visual loss. In addition, there are difficulties in examining the peripheral retina (dilation quality, patient's cooperation, possibility and quality of the indentation) and the lack of ophthalmic equipment capable of detecting and documenting peripheral retinal changes. Therefore, monitoring changes in the periphery has been difficult and is only now becoming an essential tool for our understanding of AMD natural history and aetiology. Once better characterised and understood, the role of peripheral changes in relation to normal and pathological aging could influence our ability to treat AMD patients more appropriately.

Since a few years the Optos Panoramic 200 system (Optos plc, United Kingdom) offers ultra-wide field (UWF) fundus imaging of 200 degrees with high resolution, allows for a reliable and fast capture of good quality images of the periphery even without dilation (6–8) and has a wide literature on its usefulness in the clinical management of retinal diseases (9–26). However, little is known about the frequency of peripheral lesions in the general elderly populations. By using UWF imaging, we assessed the prevalence of peripheral lesions resembling AMD in a population-based sample of French elderly subjects and studied their associations with risk factors known to be associated with AMD.

SUBJECTS AND METHODS

Study Purpose

The Alienor (Antioxydants, Lipides Essentiels, Nutrition and maladies Oculaires) Study is a prospective, single center, population-based epidemiological study focusing on age-related eye diseases (AMD, glaucoma, cataract, dry eye syndrome) and their associations with nutritional factors (in particular antioxidants, macular pigment and fatty acids), gene polymorphisms, environmental and vascular factors (27).

Study Sample

Subjects of the Alienor Study were recruited from an ongoing population-based study on the vascular risk factors for dementia, the Three-City (3C) Study (28). The 3C Study included 9 294 subjects aged 65 years or more from three French Cities (Bordeaux, Dijon and Montpellier), among whom 2104 were recruited in Bordeaux. They were initially recruited from electoral rolls in 1999-2001 and followed-up about every two years since. Data collected at each examination included cognitive testing with diagnoses of dementia and assessment of vascular risk factors. Fasting blood and DNA samples were collected and kept frozen at -80°C. In addition, in Bordeaux, nutritional data were collected, including measurements of plasma concentrations of antioxidants, omega 3 fatty acids and carotenoids as well as a food questionnaire. The Alienor Study consists of eye examinations, which are offered to all participants of the 3C cohort in Bordeaux since the third follow-up (2006-2008). Among the 1450 participants re-examined between October 2006 and May 2008, 963 (66.4%) participated in the Alienor Study's baseline eye examination. Among those, 624 (59 deaths, 265 refusals, 15 moving) participated in the Alienor study's second eye examination (wave 2, between 2009 and 2011), the main focus of the present study, since UWF imaging was introduced at this examination.

This research followed the tenets of the Declaration of Helsinki. Participants gave written consent for the participation in the study. The design of the Alienor study has been approved by the Ethical Committee of Bordeaux (Comité de Protection des Personnes Sud-Ouest et Outre-Mer III) in May 2006.

Eye Examination

The eye examinations took place in the Department of Ophthalmology of the University Hospital of Bordeaux (France). It included a recording of ophthalmological history, measures of visual acuity, refraction, two 45° nonmydriatic color retinal photographs (one centered on the macula, the other centered on the optic disc), measures of intraocular pressure and central corneal thickness, and break-up time test. In addition, from 2009, one UWF retinograph (Optos Panoramic 200C, Optos plc, Dunfermline, Scotland, United Kingdom) and Optical Coherence Tomography (OCT) examination (Heidelberg Engineering Spectralis®) were performed in each eyes.

UWF images were taken according to a standard protocol through an undilated pupil and were performed by the same qualified technician. Subjects looked into the instrument with one eye and adjusted their eye position to see the fixation pattern. The orthoptist could check the patient's eye position and guide the patient to the correct position and vertex distance. After having verified the quality of the images and allocated an anonymization number to each participant, the pictures were sent to the Moorfields Eye Hospital Reading Center to be graded.

UWF image interpretation

Images were interpreted by a trained technician (TC) between August 2011 and November 2011 using dedicated hardware and software. All images were reviewed using the Optos V2 Vantage Pro Review software version 2.6.3.2. Grader selected the better image, placed the digital grading grid appropriately onto the fundus image and started the interpretation looking for peripheral lesions resembling early and late AMD as:

- hard drusen defined by a diameter lower than 125µm and a number higher than 10,
- soft drusen defined by a diameter greater than 125µm,
- retinal pigment epithelial changes defined as areas of hyperpigmentation and/or hypopigmentation without visibility of choroidal vessels,
- atrophy defined as an area of retinal depigmentation with sharp border and visible choroidal vessels.

-choroidal neovascularisation defined as subretinal or sub-RPE haemorrhages and fibrous scar tissue.
(Examples on Figure 1).

Lesions were described in the mid-periphery (zone 4: areas inside a ring centered on the fovea, with a 11000 µm diameter and outside temporal vascular arcades) and in the far-periphery (zone 5: all areas outside zone 4) (Figure 2). Currently, there is no agreement about the grading of the peripheral retinal UWF changes; these zones were arbitrarily defined. An adjustment was made by a retina specialist and senior grader (TP) if necessary. None of the persons involved in the grading of UWF images had any access to other clinical data (including AMD diagnosis) and risk factors data of the subjects.

Classification of AMD on the 45° retinal photographs

Retinal photographs were performed using a high-resolution digital non mydriatic retinograph (TRC NW6S; Topcon, Tokyo, Japan). Photographs were interpreted at the Bordeaux University Hospital, in duplicate by two specially trained technicians. Inconsistencies between the two interpretations were adjudicated by a retina specialist for classification of AMD and other retinal diseases and by a glaucoma specialist for classification of glaucoma. All cases of late AMD, other retinal diseases, and glaucoma were reviewed and confirmed by specialists.

Retinal photographs were interpreted according to the international classification (29) and to a modification of the grading scheme used in the Multi-Ethnic Study of Atherosclerosis for drusen size, location and area (30). Eyes were classified according into one of the three exclusive groups: no AMD, early AMD, late AMD. Early AMD was defined by the presence of soft distinct drusen and/or soft indistinct drusen and/or reticular drusen and/or pigmentary abnormalities, within the central 3000µm. Soft distinct and indistinct drusen were larger than 125 microns in diameter and with uniform density and sharp edges or decreasing density from the center outwards and fuzzy edges, respectively. Pigmentary abnormalities were defined as areas of hyperpigmentation and/or hypopigmentation (without visibility of choroidal vessels). Late AMD was defined by the presence of neovascular AMD or geographic atrophy within the central 3000 µm. Neovascular AMD included serous or hemorrhagic detachment of the retinal pigment epithelium (RPE) or sensory retina, subretinal or sub-RPE hemorrhages and fibrous scar tissue. Geographic atrophy was defined as a discrete

area of retinal depigmentation, 175 microns in diameter or larger, characterized by a sharp border and the presence of visible choroidal vessels.

In addition, at wave 2, a Spectral-Domain Ocular Coherence Tomography (SD-OCT) examination was performed using Heidelberg Spectralis® HRA+OCT (Heidelberg Engineering). Macular scans (vertical and horizontal lines, macular volume) were interpreted by a retina specialist (JFK) for signs of retinal atrophy and neovascular AMD (subretinal fluid, subretinal tissue, pigment epithelium detachment, intra-retinal fluid). Finally, classification of late atrophic and neovascular AMD at wave 2 was based on all available information (ophthalmological history and treatments, retinal photographs, OCT scans).

Other Variables

Other studied variables were those significantly associated with AMD in the Alienor study: age, smoking and other cardiovascular risk factors, plasma omega 3 polyunsaturated fatty acids (PUFA) and genetics polymorphisms : *Complement Factor H* (CFH) Y402H (rs1061170), *Age-Related Maculopathy Susceptibility 2* (ARMS2) A69S (rs10490924), *Apolipoproteins E2* (ApoE2), *Apolipoproteins E4* (ApoE4), *Hepatic lipase (LIPC)* (rs10468017), *LIPC* (rs493258), *Lipoprotein Lipase (LPL)* (rs12678919), *ATP-Binding Cassette transporter A1 (ABCA1)* (rs1883025), *Cholesteryl Ester Transfer Protein CETP* (rs3764261) polymorphisms (31–37).

Data were collected during a face-to-face interview using a standardized questionnaire administered by a trained psychologist or nurse. At baseline, general data included demographic characteristics, educational level, and smoking. BMI (kg/m²) was calculated as weight/ height² using weight and height measured at baseline. Two separate measures of blood pressure in a seated position were performed in all participants. Hypertension was defined as average systolic \geq 140 mmHg and/or average diastolic \geq 90 mmHg and/or antihypertensive medication use at baseline examination. Diabetes was defined as fasting blood glucose \geq 6.1 mmol/L or nonfasting glycemia \geq 11.0 mmol/l or antidiabetic medication.

Plasma lipids were measured at the Biochemistry Laboratory of the University Hospital of Dijon from baseline fasting blood samples. Plasma fatty acid composition was determined from the fasting blood samples collected at baseline examination of the 3C Study (1999-2001), after storage at -80°C for 36 months

(35,36) which could guarantee the stability of the analyzes, as previously described (35).

Genetic polymorphisms were determined by the Lille Génopôle, from the DNA samples collected at baseline (1999–2001).

Statistical Analyses

Associations of peripheral soft drusen and peripheral RPE changes with covariables were estimated using logistic Generalized Estimating Equation (GEE) models, taking into account the data from both eyes and their intra-individual correlation.

The chi² test was used to test for significant differences between various groups. The level of significance was defined as $p < 0.05$ for all analyses. All statistical analyses were performed using SAS version 9.2 (SAS Institute Inc, Cary, NC; procedure GENMOD for the GEE analysis).

RESULTS

Among the 624 subjects of the second eye examination of the Alienor study , subjects were aged 82.2 years on average, the proportion of women was 62.7% (n= 391) and the prevalence of late AMD was 10.4% (n=56). For technical and logistical reasons, UWF images were available in 376 of the 624 participants (60.3%).

As shown in Table 1, in the mid-periphery (zone 4), 152 (40.5%) subjects had soft drusen in at least one eye, 98 (26.3%) hard drusen, 12 (3.2%) RPE changes, 7 (1.9%) atrophy and no CNV. In the far-periphery (zone 5) we observed 113 (31.6%) subjects with soft drusen, 42 (11.6%) with hard drusen, 37 (9.8%) with RPE changes, 11 (2.9%) with atrophy and no CNV.

A total of 191 patients (51%) showed soft drusen in the periphery (zone 4 and/or 5), 117 (31.3%) hard drusen, 46 (12.2%) RPE changes, 17 (4.5%) atrophy and no CNV. Overall, 179 patients (47.6%) had at least one peripheral AMD-like lesion in the mid periphery, 144 (38.3%) in the far periphery and 229 (61%) had at least one peripheral abnormalities resembling AMD.

The prevalence of all types of lesions were higher in subjects aged more than 85 years, by comparison with younger subjects, both in the mid and far-periphery (Table 2). In participants aged 75-84 years, 42.1% had at least one abnormality in the mid-periphery, 35.1% in the far-periphery and 56.1% in the periphery (zone 4+5). In participants older than 85 years, 64.8% had lesions in the mid-periphery, 48.4% in the far-periphery and 75.8% in the periphery (zone 4+5).

In **Table 3**, we report the frequency of abnormalities according to the stage of AMD. For all the items, eyes with signs of early or late AMD had more frequently peripheral abnormalities as compared with those without AMD. The frequency of peripheral lesions increased from 55% in eyes without AMD, to 71% in those with early AMD, 91% in those with atrophic AMD and 86% in those with neovascular AMD. In

other words, the prevalence of peripheral retinal abnormalities increased with the severity of the stage of the AMD and nearly all the atrophic forms (91%) were associated with peripheral lesions resembling AMD.

However, after adjustment for age and gender, only the associations of peripheral soft drusen with atrophic AMD remained significant ($OR=4.66$, $p= 0.0085$) as well as RPE changes with neovascular AMD ($OR= 4.12$, $p=0.014$) (**Table 4**) suggesting that increased frequency of peripheral lesions in AMD subjects were partly due to the older age of these subjects.

With regard to AMD risk factors, we found significant age and gender adjusted associations of peripheral soft drusen with CFH Y402H polymorphism ($OR= 1.85$, $p=0.008$ and $OR=2.47$, $p=0.01$ respectively for TC and CC phenotypes), but not with other AMD-related genes (ARMS2, LIPC, ABCA1, CETP, LPL, ApoE4, ApoE2). Moreover, we found an opposite statistical association -compared with AMD- between higher BMI ($> 30 \text{ kg/m}^2$) and peripheral soft drusen ($OR= 0.47$, $p= 0.02$). No significant associations were found with smoking status, high blood pressure, diabetes, plasma lipids or omega 3 fatty acids or genetic polymorphisms .(**Table 5**)

DISCUSSION

Since a few years, reliable UWF imaging system is feasible with the Optomap Panoramic 200Tx system (Optos PLC, Dunfermline, Fife, Scotland, UK) which is an ultra-wide field scanning laser ophthalmoscope (SLO) with two laser wavelengths scanning at 532nm (“green laser separation”) and 633nm (“red laser separation”). The two images can be viewed separately or superimposed by specific software (Vantage V2, Optos PLC, Dunfermline, Fife, Scotland, UK) to yield semirealistic colour image. This nonmydriatic imaging system provides up to a 200-degree field of view of the retina (82%) without contact, quickly and with good quality images even if there are lens opacities. This is made possible by an ellipsoidal mirror of the scanning laser ophthalmoscope designed by optos and which can capture UWF of the retina. Prevalence of peripheral abnormalities with UFW imaging has been described in few publications and to our knowledge, this study is the first assessment of the associations between UFW peripheral changes resembling early and late AMD disease and so many AMD risk factors. With regards to AMD, previous publications described mainly autofluorescence peripheral changes in Optomap and relation with CFH genotypes (24,38–43). Tan&Al reported color and autofluorescence photographic peripheral abnormalities resembling AMD but in a population exclusively of AMD patients (24); Heussen&al (40) in a population of patients consulting for one symptom and Munch&Al (43) only peripheral drusen without UWF imaging system. Recently Lengyel&Al (44) presented the prevalence of peripheral lesions resembling AMD on Optomap and the associations with macular lesions but not with AMD risk factors.

We report a high prevalence of peripheral abnormalities resembling AMD in this elderly population, especially soft drusen in mid-periphery. 61% of subjects presented peripheral abnormalities, 51% soft drusen, 31% hard drusen, 12% RPE changes, 4.5% atrophy, no CNV or PED. It is very close to what Heussen reported on UWF color image (68.5% of the subjects had at least one lesion in the periphery). It is similar to what Tan reported for drusen (51.7% of eyes) compared to our atrophic AMD population for soft drusen but we found much lower RPE changes (35% of eyes) and peripheral atrophy (16.8% of eyes) except for the dry AMD patients in zone 4. Munch described much lower drusen

(3.3% of the patients) but without UWF system and in a younger population. Compared to Lengyel, who used very similar methodology, we found similar prevalence of peripheral lesions (67.5% of the eyes), a little less of peripheral drusen (67.0%), more RPE changes (5.3%) and similar peripheral atrophy (4.5%); by taking into account that results were given in eyes while provided prevalence by subjects.

Peripheral changes were more prevalent in older participants and in AMD participants as reported by Munch. After adjustment for age and gender, the presence of peripheral soft drusen was statistically associated with atrophic AMD [OR=4.66, p=0.0085] while RPE changes were associated with neovascular AMD [OR=4.12, p=0.014]. We also found a statistically significant association between peripheral soft drusen and the CFH Y402H polymorphism, a major risk factor for AMD (OR=1.85, p=0.008 for the TC phenotypes and OR=2.47, p=0.01 for the CC phenotypes). However, other risk factors that were strongly associated with macular early abnormalities in the Alienor study (in particular ARMS2, LIPC and LPL genes, plasma HDL-cholesterol), were not associated with peripheral drusen or RPE abnormalities (33,36,37). Our results are consistent with a previous study, which showed an association of peripheral drusen with late AMD and the CFH Y402H polymorphism, but not with the ARMS2 locus (41). Finally, a lower risk of peripheral soft drusen was found in subjects with high BMI >30 kg/m² [OR=0.47, p=0.02], by contrast with the highest risk for AMD generally found in these subjects (45). Overall, our results suggest that the natural history of peripheral abnormalities may be partially different from that of macular lesions.

Our study analyses UWF imaging in a population-based sample of elderly subjects, with 63% of women, an average of age of 82 years and a prevalence of AMD similar to the one observed in the same age group in other European studies and other industrialized countries (4,5,46). The same qualified technician used the same camera and images were interpreted by a reference reading center; graders were unaware of any findings on the clinical examinations or risk factor exposures of the study participants, in order to minimize classification bias.

Even if previous publications have described Optomap as a reliable screening tool for fundus examination (6), UWF imaging can create distortions in the periphery and poor visibility of the lower retina.

This can explain why missing data are mostly in far periphery, especially for soft drusen and hard drusen.

Acquiring images may be easier with retraction of eyelids, as reported by Csutak and Inoue (6,47).

The relatively small number of AMD cases in our series may limit statistical power for analysis of subcategories (atrophic/neovascular). Only one grader performed the picture interpretation and there was no agreement test, but the grader was in a trained and experienced reading center. Hard drusen ($< 125\mu\text{m}$) includes drusens $< 63 \mu\text{m}$ but their significance is not proven. We did not find any Pigment Epithelial Detachment or peripheral CNV.

CONCLUSION

There are many age-related changes found in the periphery of elderly subjects, that may be correlated to the development of macular lesions. However, peripheral changes appear related only to a subgroup of AMD risk factors (in particular CFH polymorphisms), suggesting that their etiology may be partially different. Further studies with UFW imaging are needed to confirm these findings, in particular in large prospective population-based studies.

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Table 1. Prevalence of retinal lesions for each peripheral zone, in subjects of the Alienor study (%(n)).

	Mid-periphery		Far-periphery		Periphery
	Subjects % (n)	Mean age (sd)	Subjects % (n)	Mean age (sd)	Subjects % (n)
	<i>N=376*</i>		<i>N=376**</i>		<i>N=376***</i>
Soft drusen	40.5 (152)	82.8 (4.6)	31.6 (113)	83.0 (4.8)	50.9 (191)
Hard drusen	26.3 (98)	82.3 (4.1)	11.6 (42)	83.3 (4.8)	31.3 (117)
RPE changes	3.2 (12)	85.9 (4.9)	9.8 (37)	84.1 (5.6)	12.2 (46)
Atrophy	1.9 (7)	83.4 (5.3)	2.9 (11)	84.2 (5.3)	4.5 (17)
CNV	0 (0)		0 (0)		0 (0)
Total	47.6 (179)	82.9 (4.6)	38.3 (144)	83.1 (4.7)	60.9 (229)

Data are frequencies (%) of the total group (the numbers of subjects), unless otherwise specified

sd= standard deviation

* Missing values for the *Mid-periphery*, respectively for Soft Drusen, Hard Drusen and RPE changes: 1, 3, 1.

** Missing values for the *Far-periphery*, respectively for Soft Drusen and Hard Drusen: 18, 14,

*** Missing values for *the periphery*, respectively for Soft Drusen and Hard Drusen : 1, 2.

Table 2. Prevalence of peripheral retinal abnormalities according to age, in subjects of the Alienor study (% (n)).

			Prevalence % (n)	
			<i>Age < 85 years</i>	<i>Age > 85 years</i>
			<i>n= 285</i>	<i>n= 91</i>
Soft drusen	Mid-periphery	37.3 (106)		50.6 (46)
	Far-periphery	28.9 (78)		39.8 (35)
	Periphery	51.3 (134)		66.3 (57)
Hard drusen	Mid-periphery	25.5 (72)		28.6 (26)
	Far-periphery	10.26 (28)		15.7 (14)
	Periphery	31.8 (84)		39.3 (33)
RPE changes	Mid-periphery	1.8 (5)		7.7 (7)
	far-periphery	7.7 (22)		16.5 (15)
	periphery	9.3 (26)		22.5 (20)
Atrophy	Mid-periphery	1.4 (4)		3.3 (3)
	Far-periphery	2.5 (7)		4.4 (4)
	Periphery	3.9 (11)		6.7 (6)
Any the peripheral lesions	Mid-periphery	42.1 (120)		64.8 (59)
	Far-periphery	35.1 (100)		48.4 (44)
	Periphery	56.1 (160)		75.8 (69)

RPE = retinal pigment epithelial.

Table 3. Proportion of peripheral retinal changes according to the stage of AMD (%(n)).

		Prevalence (eyes) % (n)			
		No AMD	Early AMD	Atrophic AMD	Neovascular AMD
		n=397	n=150	n=24	n=29
Soft drusen	Mid-periphery	30.0 (117)	51.0 (75)	54.2 (13)	44.8 (13)
	Far-periphery	25.0 (91)	32.6 (45)	52.4 (11)	31.0 (9)
	Periphery	43.9 (162)	62.2 (89)	83.3 (20)	62.1 (18)
Hard drusen	Mid-periphery	23.4 (91)	31.0 (44)	25.0 (6)	10.3 (3)
	Far-periphery	7.7 (28)	11.7 (16)	22.7 (5)	13.8 (4)
	Periphery	28.1 (106)	34.8 (48)	47.8 (11)	24.1 (7)
RPE changes	Mid-periphery	1.8 (7)	0.7 (1)	8.3 (2)	0 (0)
	Far-periphery	5.3 (21)	6.7 (10)	8.3 (2)	24.1 (7)
	Periphery	7.2 (28)	6.7 (10)	12.5 (3)	24.1 (7)
Atrophy	Mid-periphery	0.8 (3)	0.7 (1)	0 (0)	13.8 (4)
	Far-periphery	1.0 (4)	4.1 (6)	0 (0)	3.4 (1)
	Periphery	7.2 (28)	6.7 (10)	12.5 (3)	24.1 (7)
All the peripheral lesions		Periphery	55.0 (202)	71.1 (101)	91.3 (21)
					86.2 (25)

Table 4. Associations of AMD-like lesions at the peripheral retina and risk factors of the AMD in the Alienor study.

	Peripheral retinal pigment			Peripheral soft drusen		
	n(eye)	OR (95% CI)	p-value	n(eye)	OR (95% CI)	p-value
AMD	No AMD	390	ref	ref	369	ref
	Early	149	0.97 (0.46, 2.05)	0.94	143	1.30 (0.96,1.75)
	Atrophic	24	1.10 (0.23, 5.16)	0.90	24	4.66 (1.48,14.68)
Diabetes	Neovascular	29	4.12 (1.33, 12.76)	0.014	29	1.54 (0.68, 3.46)
	No diabetes	530	ref	ref	503	ref
	diabetes	92	0.35 (0.09, 1.40)	0.14	87	0.75 (0.40, 1.41)
Diastolic blood pressure mmHg	674	1.00 (1.00, 1.02)	0.44	637	1.00 (1.00,1.03)	0.17
Systolic blood pressure, mmHg	674	1.00 (1.00, 1.00)	0.09	637	1.00 (1.00, 1.01)	0.9
BMI, kg/m ²	< 25	328	ref	ref	320	ref
	25-30	288	0.57 (0.28, 1.15)	0.11	266	0.93 (0.60, 1.44)
	>30	98	0.23 (0.05, 1.03)	0.05	90	0.47 (0.25, 0.90)
Smoking, Pack-years	Never	469	ref	ref	442	ref
	< 20 PY	130	0.99 (0.38, 2.56)	0.10	124	1.08 (0.63, 1.85)
	> 20 PY	137	1.68 (0.71, 4.00)	0.23	132	1.24 (0.70, 2.22)
Plasma LDL-Chol, mmol/L	611	1.30 (0.87, 1.96)	0.20	580	1.10 (0.90, 1.40)	0.40
Plasma HDL-chol, mmol/L	613	1.22 (0.50, 3.00)	0.70	582	1.12 (0.60, 2.11)	0.72
Plasma Triglycerides, mmol/L	613	1.50 (0.85, 2.53)	0.17	582	0.90 (0.60, 1.34)	0.60
Plasma Total chol, mmol/L	613	1.31 (1.00, 2.00)	0.15	582	1.08 (0.90, 1.33)	0.44
Plasma Omega 3 fatty acids(% of total fatty acids)	577	0.71 (0.49, 1.04)	0.08	544	1.05 (0.85, 1.30)	0.63

Table 5. Associations between genotypes and peripheral retinal drusen and pigment in the Alienor Study.

Genotype	Peripheral retinal pigment			Peripheral soft drusen		
	n(eye)	OR (95% CI)	p-value	n(eye)	OR (95% CI)	p-value
CFH Y402H rs1061170	TT	297	ref	ref	279	ref
	TC	278	1.00 (0.50, 2.01)	0.99	262	1.85 (1.17, 3.00)
	CC	80	1.27 (0.39, 4.20)	0.69	78	2.47 (1.22, 5.00)
ARMS2 rs10468017	GG	418	ref	ref	393	ref
	GT	166	1.63 (0.80, 3.31)	0.18	158	1.31 (0.80, 2.14)
	TT	17	0.75 (0.10, 6.22)	0.79	17	3.41 (0.80, 14.5)
CFB rs 641153	22	443	NB	NB	412	ref
	11	14	NB	NB	13	5.62 (0.62, 5.85)
	12	146	NB	NB	143	0.71 (0.43, 1.16)
LIPC rs 493258	CC	304	ref	ref	286	ref
	TC	170	0.63 (0.25, 1.55)	0.31	166	1.09 (0.64, 1.85)
	TT	127	1.44 (0.65, 3.20)	0.37	116	0.91 (0.51, 1.60)
LIPC rs 10468017	CC	321	ref	ref	310	ref
	TC	243	1.23 (0.61, 2.50)	0.56	224	0.83 (0.52, 1.31)
	TT	37	1.60 (0.32, 8.00)	0.57	37	1.41 (0.56, 3.57)
ABCA1 rs 1883025	CC	303	ref	ref	283	ref
	CT	248	0.83 (0.40, 1.75)	0.62	237	0.96 (0.60, 1.52)
	TT	50	2.15 (0.82, 5.64)	0.12	48	1.00 (0.40, 2.05)
CETP rs 3764261	CC	290	ref	ref	275	ref
	AA	54	0.52 (0.11, 2.40)	0.40	49	1.04 (0.45, 2.43)
	AC	247	0.85 (0.41, 1.80)	0.67	234	0.90 (0.54, 1.40)
LPL rs 1267891	AA	454	ref	ref	429	ref
	AG	131	0.59 (0.23, 1.48)	0.26	123	0.95 (0.58, 1.66)
	GG	6	4.85 (0.48, 48.88)	0.18	6	0.52 (0.03, 9.91)
ApoE4	No allele E4	167	ref	ref	159	ref
	At least an allele E4	559	0.96 (0.50, 1.90)	0.90	533	1.06 (0.70, 1.70)

	No allele E2	164	ref	ref	158	ref	ref
ApoE2	At least an allele E2	562	0.80 (0.40,1.60)	0.52	534	1.3 (0.82, 2.14)	0.25

NB: could not be determined because of low number of observations.

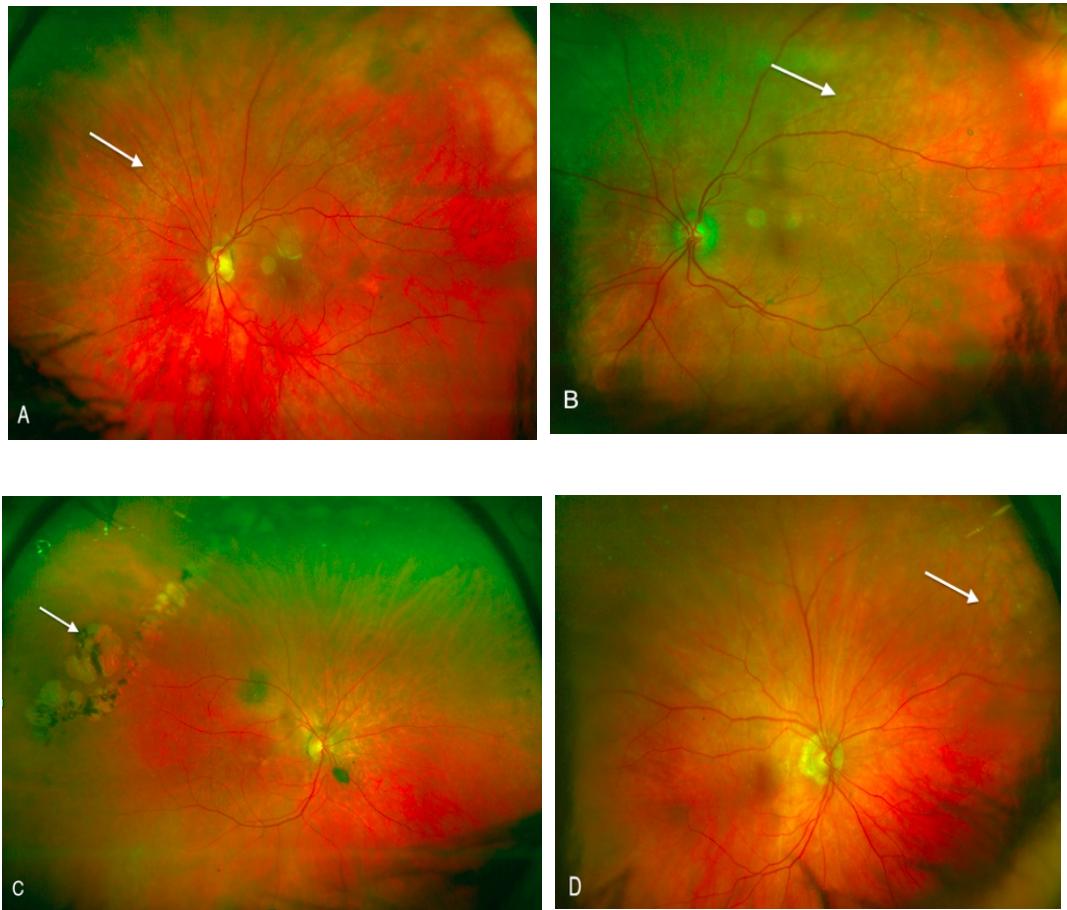


Figure 1: Color photos illustrating peripheral fundus abnormalities

A: Photography illustrating *hard drusen*

B: Image showing *soft drusen* **C :** Areas of *GA* **D:** Areas of *RPE changes* in the periphery of the fundus.

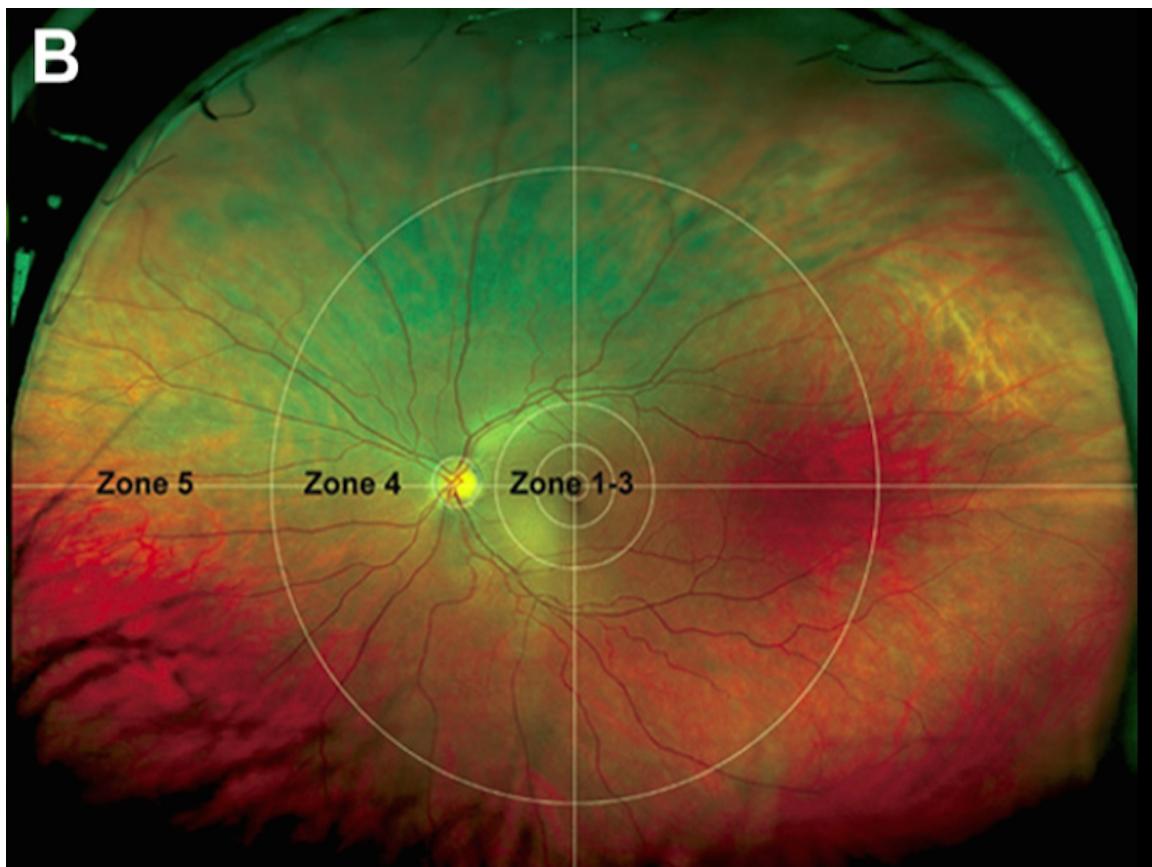


Figure 2:

Projected grid on image taken by Optos P200C UWF laser scanning ophthalmoscope.

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SERMENT D'HIPPOCRATE

Au moment d'être admis(e) à exercer la médecine, je promets et je jure d'être fidèle aux lois de l'honneur et de la probité.

Mon premier souci sera de rétablir, de préserver ou de promouvoir la santé dans tous ses éléments, physiques et mentaux, individuels et sociaux.

Je respecterai toutes les personnes, leur autonomie et leur volonté, sans aucune discrimination selon leur état ou leurs convictions. J'interviendrai pour les protéger si elles sont affaiblies, vulnérables ou menacées dans leur intégrité ou leur dignité. Même sous la contrainte, je ne ferai pas usage de mes connaissances contre les lois de l'humanité.

J'informerai les patients des décisions envisagées, de leurs raisons et de leurs conséquences. Je ne tromperai jamais leur confiance et n'exploiterai pas le pouvoir hérité des circonstances pour forcer les consciences.

Je donnerai mes soins à l'indigent et à quiconque me les demandera. Je ne me laisserai pas influencer par la soif du gain ou la recherche de la gloire.

Admis(e) dans l'intimité des personnes, je tairai les secrets qui me seront confiés. reçu(e) à l'intérieur des maisons, je respecterai les secrets des foyers et ma conduite ne servira pas à corrompre les moeurs.

Je ferai tout pour soulager les souffrances. Je ne prolongerai pas abusivement les agonies. Je ne provoquerai jamais la mort délibérément.

Je préserverai l'indépendance nécessaire à l'accomplissement de ma mission. Je n'entreprendrai rien qui dépasse mes compétences. Je les entretiendrai et les perfectionnerai pour assurer au mieux les services qui me seront demandés.

J'apporterai mon aide à mes confrères ainsi qu'à leurs familles dans l'adversité.

Que les hommes et mes confrères m'accordent leur estime si je suis fidèle à mes promesses ; que je sois déshonoré(e) et méprisé(e) si j'y manque.

Serment réactualisé par le Professeur Hoerni et adopté par le Conseil de l'Ordre en 1996.