OPTICAL COHERENCE TOMOGRAPHY ANGIOGRAPHY OF THE RETINA AND OPTIC NERVE

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FINANCIAL DISCLOSURES

• None.

OUTLINE

- Introduction/How OCTA works
- OCTA Analysis
- Advantages and Disadvantages of OCTA
- Applications of OCTA
 - Diabetic retinopathy
 - Choroidal Diseases
 - Vascular occlusions and Macular Telantagiectasias
 - Retinitis Pigmentosa
 - Optic Neuropathies and Glaucoma

RETINAL AND CHOROIDAL BLOOD SUPPLY







Campbell et al 2017

CHOROIDAL VASCULATURE



Ibrahim, M.N., Agarwal, S., Vupparaboina, K.K., Chhablani, J., Richhariya, A., & Jana, S. (2017). Segmenting and Labeling blood vessels in choroidal Haller's layer: A multiple target tracking approach. 2017 IEEE EMBS International Conference on Biomedical & Health Informatics (BHI), 113-116.

OPTICAL COHERENCE TOMOGRAPHY ANGIOGRAPHY (OCTA)

Non-invasive imaging technology that allows in vivo visualization of the retinal and choroidal vasculatures, including the peripapillary network.



Retina



Optic Nerve



Density Maps

Q. Zhang et al., J. Biomed. Opt., 20, 066008 (2015).



ΟCTA

Dual modality- en face flow information + cross sec structure info simultaneously & depth coded atarny stoct photo

Detects motion of scattering particles such as red-blood cells within sequential OCT B-scan *Voxels* performed repeatedly at the same location of the retina – very fast

Acquisition with FastTrac

Data Processing powered by OMAG^c (decorrelation)







Clusters of OCT B-scans. Each cluster b-scan acquired in the same position on the retina... anatomy doesn't't change



Blood flow OCT B-scan. Each cluster generates one Blood flow scan is the only change = movement

OCTA = vascular

AngioPlex Map. Process pixels Reconstructed map of the perfused microvasculature within the retina and choroid.



Slide Courtesy of Diana Shechtman, OD

CHOROIDAL VASCULATURE



TECHNOLOGY

- AngioVue (Optovue)
- AngioPlex (Zeiss)
- Spectralis OCT Angiography (Heidelberg)

OCTA ANALYSIS

NORMAL OCTA



Slide Courtesy of Diana Shechtman, OD

NORMAL OCTA

Retina OverVue

Image Type: Angio

















3.00 x 3.00 Scan Size (mm)

Right / OD

Angio - Deep

Angio - Outer Retina

Angio - Choroid Capillary



Reference image on 08/30/2016

Zoomed



Capillary Density



COMPARISON TO FLUORESCEIN ANGIOGRAPHY AND ICG

- Advantages of OCTA
 - Non-invasive imaging, no use of exogenous dye
 - No risk of adverse affect (from dye)
 - Fast! Takes 3-4 seconds compared to several minutes
 - Repeatability
 - Higher resolution Able to visualize fine detail of vasculature at all retinal layers because not obscured by leaking dye
 - Provides more precise depth localization and delineation of lesions



COMPARISON TO FLUORESCEIN ANGIOGRAPHY AND ICG

- Disadvantages of OCTA
 - Cannot visualize active leakage
 - Not able to visualize vessels that have no flow or slower flow than detection threshold of OCTA
 - Limited field of view... still developing widefield imaging
 - Susceptible to artifacts (motion, blink and shadowing)



APPLICATIONS OF OCTA

DIABETIC RETINOPATHY





DIABETIC RETINOPATHY

- Mostly affects the superficial capillary plexus (SCP)
- Easier to identify vascular anomalies associated with DR:
 - Microaneurysms
 - Retinal capillary dropout
 - Enlargement and distortion of foveal avascular zone
 - Vascular loops
 - Neovascularization

DIABETIC RETINOPATHY

- Study by Carlos et al 2015
 - 61 eyes with DM with no DR and 28 control eyes of healthy subjects
 - OCTA able to image foveal microvascular changes not detected by clinical examination.
 - FAZ remodeling more in diabetic than in control eyes (36% vs 11%)
 - More capillary non profusion in diabetic eyes (21% vs 4%)
 - Conclusion: diabetic eyes showed statistically significant FAZ enlargement compared to healthy eyes, irrespective of presence of DR.

DIABETIC RETINOPATHY: MICROANEURYSMS





BUT MY PATIENT SEES 20/20....

- 47 YO African American Male
- Type 2 DM x 10 years
- Best corrected vision 20/20 OD, OS





BUT MY PATIENT SEES 20/20....





OCTA DETECTION OF MICROVASCULAR CHANGES IN DM



OCTA DETECTION OF MICROVASCULAR CHANGES IN DM





OCTA DETECTION OF MICROVASCULAR CHANGES IN DM



PROLIFERATIVE DIABETIC RETINOPATHY

Retina OverVue





AGE-RELATED MACULAR DEGENERATION



AGE RELATED MACULAR DEGENERATION

- OCTA is great tool for monitoring "Dry" to "Wet" conversion
 - Recognize subtle CNVM and get treatment promptly
- OCTA provides ability to visualize choroidal neovascularization in avascular layer or choriocapillaris
- Study with 48 eyes with confirmed CNV, specificity of CNV detection on OCTA compared to FA was high (91%) but sensitivity was low (50%). (Carlos et al. 2015)



Sambhav et al 2017

TYPES OF CNVM

- Type I: Occult (beneath the RPE layer)
- Type 2: Classic (above the RPE layer and has adjacent SRF leakage)
- Type 3: RAP (Retinal Angiomatous Proliferation)

Classification of Choroidal Neovascular Membranes. OCT-Angiography



Type 1 (Occult) CNV - Neovascular membranes located below the pigment epithelium. Note the dark halo around the new vessels.



Type 2 (Classic) CNV: Choroidal neovascular membranes located above the pigment epithelium, penetrating the retina. Note the dark halo around the new vessels.



Type 3 CNV (RAP lesions), located at the level of the avascular zone. Note the dark halo around the neovascularization.

Modified classification from J. Jung and K.B. Freund. All OCT-Angiography images have been obtained using the AngioVue OCT system from Optovue (Fremont, California)





TYPES OF CNVM



Fibrous scar with residual new vessels in a fibrous scar

formation (seen here as a very dark, non-vascularized area). Residual vessels are seen, but are inactive where residual flow is still present.



Myopic neovascular membranes, Type 2, are generally very small-sized, and show a slightly edematous appearance. Note the dark halo around the new blood vessels.



Filamentous-type CNV (subretinal, Type 1) is often seen in chronic CSCR; however, it may occasionally also be

present in AMD. New blood vessels are thick and less tortuous, with almost complete absence of fine capillaries. Note the absence of the dark halo around the new blood vessels.



Active CNV: There are numerous fine capillaries, with frequent and dense anastomoses. The loops of blood vessels can be seen especially at the periphery.





Quiescent CNV: Observed during a period of stability and/or during regression, it may be spontaneous or it may occur after many treatments. The fine capillaries have disappeared, the anastomoses are rare, and the looped blood vessels have disappeared. The remaining blood vessels are more rigid, thicker, and less tortuous (arterialized).

FILAMENTOUS CNV



Active CNV: numerous fine capillaries, with frequent and dense anastomoses are observed. Vessel loops can be seen, especially at the periphery.



Quiescent CNV: Neovessels observed during a period of stability. The fine capillaries and vessel loops have disappeared, and the anastomoses are rare. The remaining vessels are stiffer, thicker, and less tortuous.



Mixed active and quiescent CNV: Mature neovascular membranes (courtesy of Rick Spaide, MD), quiescent on the left side. Active neovessels on the right: there are numerous, very dense, fine capillaries with frequent anastomoses, and vessel loops are seen at the periphery.

Modified classification from J. Jung and K.B. Freund. All OCT-Angiography images have been obtained using the AngioVue OCT system from Optovue (Fremont, California)





1982 by Yannuzzi:

Characterized by **branching vascular network** (BVN) with adjacent **polypoidal lesions (dilations/polyps)** at the terminal ends

Multiple, recurrent serosanguineous detachments of the RPE (PED) and/or neurosensory retina Associated with secondary bleeding or leakage from the polypoidal lesions.



ICGA VS OCTA?



OCTA: Outer Retina



Polyps detected: 100% by ICGA 85% by OCTA BVN detected: 70% ICGA 70% OCTA



Takayama, K., Ito, Y., Kaneko, H., Kataoka, K., Sugita, T., Maruko, R., ... Terasaki, H. (2017). Comparison of indocyanine green angiography and optical coherence tomographic angiography in polypoidal choroidal vasculopathy. Eye, 31(1), 45–52. https://doi.org/10.1038/eye.2016.232

CHRONIC CENTRAL SEROUS CHORIORETINOPATHY



CHRONIC CSCR

- OCTA is helpful in identifying active CNVM
- Bonini Filho et al reports that OCTA has high sensitivity and specificity (compared to FA) for detection of CNV in eyes with chronic CSCR





MACULAR TELANGIECTASIAS



https://www.atlasophthalmology.net/photo.jsf;jsessionid=BF992285CD3B3A7F4ACFC8C7D34AE4B6?node=8967&lo<mark>cale=en</mark>

MACULAR TELANGIECTASIA

- A congenital or developmental vascular disorder
- Exudative dilations of perifoveal retinal capillaries
- Type I: Aneurysmal
 - Males, unilateral, 4th or 5th decade
 - VA 20/40 or better
 - Dilation of capillaries, aneurysms, leakage and non-profusion to temporal macula
 - Limited to SCP and DCP



MACULAR TELANGIECTASIA

- Microaneurysms, capillary outbursts, vascular abnormalities and sclerotic vessels easy to visualize in SCP and DCP on OCTA
- Early identification leads to prompt treatment and appropriate blood work





Angio - Choroid Capillary

RETINAL VASCULAR OCCLUSIONS



RETINAL VASCULAR OCCLUSIONS

- CRVO and BRVO is thrombosis of the retinal vein leading to impaired capillary profusion and retinal ischemia
- Kashani et al report findings in 26 eyes with RVO. They showed OCTA findings were consistent with clinical, anatomic and FA findings.
- Areas of ischemia are well delinated on OCTA and correspond with areas seen on FA.
- SCP and DCP can be separated allowing for better appreciation of lesions affecting primarily middle retina.
- OCTA often used as adjunct tool to characterize vascular occlusions

CASE: COMBINED CRAO AND CRVO

- 69 YO Female presented to ER with sudden, painless vision loss after cataract surgery with retrobulbar anesthesia OS
- BCVA: 20/40 OD, HM OS
- APD OS
- Anterior segment OS : corneal edema, tr cell I + flare
- Posterior segment OS: Mild disc edema, macular edema, whitening of the macula, subtle tortuosity of vessels, flame-shaped hemes and cotton wool spots in all quadrants

CASE: COMBINED CRAO AND CRVO

- SD-OCT OS: Hyperreflectivity and edema of the inner retina with disruption of ellipsoid zone
- OCTA OS: Absence of flow in foveal and perifoveal area in SCP and DCP. Normal choriocapillaris and choroid.

CENTRAL RETINAL VEIN OCCLUSION





CENTRAL RETINAL VEIN OCCLUSION











CENTRAL RETINAL VEIN OCCLUSION

Left / OS

Angio Retina







RETINITIS PIGMENTOSA



RETINITIS PIGMENTOSA

- RP demonstrates alterations in all macular vasculature, mostly reduction in SCP and DCP.
- Reduction in blood flow occurs early in disease and can lead to ischemia, retinal damage and cell death
- Vessel density abnormalities at the level of the DCP appear to be directly related to macular function and visual potential

OCTA Macular Capillary Density at Different Stages of RP







Moderate RP



Severe RP



OS

GLAUCOMA AND OPTIC NEUROPATHIES



BLOOD SUPPLY TO ONH

- ONH supplied by two main sources:
 - Central retinal artery =superficial layers (NFL)
 - Posterior ciliary artery = deeper layers (prelaminar, lamina cribosa, and retrolaminar regions)

- 72 yo Caucasian male presented with chronic NAION
- H/O: NAION occurred in right eye 13 years ago followed by a similar event in the left eye the following year.
- Medical Hx: HIV, diabetes type 2, and hypertension.
- BCVA: 20/20-3 OD, 20/25 OS.
- Mild APD OS. Mild R-G color deficiency OS, while the right eye was normal.
- Anterior segment findings were unremarkable except for a small posterior subcapsular cataract in the visual axis of the left eye.
- Fundus examination revealed superior temporal pallor of the right optic nerve head and generalize pallor of the left optic nerve head. Both optic nerves had distinct margins and 0.1 C/R ratio.





RNFL Deviation Map Neuro-retinal Rim Thickness μm ---- OD --- OS 800 -400 TEMP SUP NAS INF TEMP Disc Center(-0.06.-0.42)mm **RNFL** Thickness Extracted Horizontal Tomogram μm - OD --- OS 200 100 TEMP SUP NAS INF TEMP Extracted Vertical Tomogram Diversified 71 63 Distribution of Normals 95% 5% 1% NA 45 64 RNFL Quadrants 61 RNFL Circular Tomogram 127 78 58 56 56 45 77 RNFL 41 60 Clock Hours 57 48 116 157 109 53 59





41

70





AngioPlex - Retina



is : Angiography 6x6 mm

AngioPlex - Retina







- OCT angiography provides high resolution imaging of the optic nerve and peripapillary vasculature that spatially corresponds to optic nerve atrophy, retinal nerve fiber layer thickness and visual field defects in cases of chronic optic neuropathy such as NAION.
- Optic neuropathies are a heterogeneous group of optic nerve disorders that require different management within different timelines, but yet many have similar ophthalmoscopic presentation, usually as optic disc edema or atrophy.
- The characterization of these various disorders using OCTA could provide a tool that would facilitate their differential diagnosis, allowing for prompt and accurate management of the condition.

TAKE HOME POINTS

TAKE HOME POINTS

- OCTA is an innovated technology that can provide insight into the pathophysiology of retinal and optic nerve diseases
- OCTA can aid in diagnosis and prompt management of a variety of retinal and optic nerve diseases

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