

Correlation of Topometric and Tomographic Indices with Visual Acuity in Patients with Keratoconus

Bernardo T Lopes, Isaac C Ramos, Fernando Faria-Correia, Allan Luz, Bruno de Freitas Valbon, Michael Wellington Belin, Renato Ambrósio Jr

ABSTRACT

Purpose: To evaluate the correlations of Pentacam keratometric, topometric (derived from front surface curvature) and tomographic (derived from 3D corneal shape analysis) indices with best corrected visual acuity in patients with keratoconus.

Materials and methods: One eye randomly selected of 123 patients with bilateral keratoconus was retrospectively enrolled. All patients underwent a comprehensive ophthalmic examination including subjective refraction, distance best-spectacle corrected visual acuity (DCVA) measurement, and rotating Scheimpflug corneal tomography (Pentacam HR; Oculus, Wetzlar, Germany) at the same office visit. The correlations between the logarithm of the minimum angle of resolution (LogMAR) of DCVA and keratometric indices, topometric indices and tomographic indices were tested with nonparametric Spearman correlation coefficients (ρ).

Results: The mean LogMAR DCVA was 0.32 ($-20/42$) \pm 0.27 [range: -0.10 ($20/15$) to 1.30 ($20/400$)]. There were strong correlations between DCVA and many keratometric, topometric and tomographic indices. A strong positive correlation was found between DCVA and BAD-Df ($\rho = 0.648$, $p < 0.001$), BAD-Db ($\rho = 0.633$, $p < 0.001$), K2 ($\rho = 0.643$, $p < 0.001$), K_{max} ($\rho = 0.608$, $p < 0.001$), TKC ($\rho = 0.558$, $p < 0.001$), BAD-D ($\rho = 0.577$, $p < 0.001$), ISV ($\rho = 0.573$, $p < 0.001$), CKI ($\rho = 0.530$, $p < 0.001$), KI ($\rho = 0.531$, $p < 0.001$). A strong negative correlation was seen between DCVA and Asph Q front 30° ($\rho = -0.521$, $p < 0.001$).

Conclusion: There are significant correlations between visual acuity and Pentacam parameters. Such parameters may be considered for improving staging of the disease, as well as for monitoring progression or treatment as outcome measures. There is a potential for combining parameters to enhance the correlations.

Keywords: Keratoconus, Corneal tomography, Visual acuity, Pentacam.

How to cite this article: Lopes BT, Ramos IC, Faria-Correia F, Luz A, de Freitas Valbon B, Belin MW, Ambrósio R Jr. Correlation of Topometric and Tomographic Indices with Visual Acuity in Patients with Keratoconus. *Int J Kerat Ect Cor Dis* 2012;1(3):167-172.

Source of support: Nil

Conflict of interest: None declared

INTRODUCTION

Keratoconus is a bilateral, asymmetric, progressive, noninflammatory corneal ectatic disease characterized by central thinning and anterior protrusion of the cornea.^{1,2} These changes may result in irregular astigmatism,

progressive myopia and increase in higher order aberrations leading to visual impairment.^{3,4} Since the invention of the keratoscope in the 19th century, technology has evolved to improve the capability to detect both the visual effects and physical findings of keratoconus.^{5,6} Reynolds and Kratt in 1959 were the first to incorporate computer analysis to the Placido image. This work was later advanced by Klyce in the 1980s who first produced color-coded maps of the front surface of the cornea.⁷⁻¹¹ Further, hardware development included optical cross-sectional analysis which allowed for imaging of both the anterior and posterior corneal surfaces and thus additionally a full pachymetric map.¹²⁻¹⁷ The Pentacam (Oculus Optikgeräte GmbH, Wetzlar, Germany) is a cornea and anterior segment tomography (CASTm) device, based on a rotating Scheimpflug camera with good precision (repeatability and reproducibility).¹⁸ The additional information permits a better understanding of the optical aberrations caused by keratoconus and its effects on the quality of vision.^{4,19-22}

In this study we examined the correlations of Pentacam's keratometric, topometric and tomographic indices with distance corrected visual acuity (DCVA) in patients with known keratoconus.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

One eye randomly selected of 123 patients with bilateral keratoconus was retrospectively enrolled. All patients underwent a comprehensive ophthalmic examination including subjective refraction, best corrected visual acuity (DCVA) measurement, slit-lamp biomicroscopy for seeking corneal signs of keratoconus (such as Vogt's striae, Fleischer ring, abnormal corneal thinning). Patients with extensive corneal scarring and previous corneal surgery were excluded. Along with ocular examination, all eyes were examined by Placido-disk-based corneal topography (Keratograph Topography System; Oculus, Wetzlar, Germany) and rotating Scheimpflug corneal tomography (Pentacam HR; Oculus, Wetzlar, Germany) at the same office visit. The Pentacam software was used to automatically extract the data from each examination into a Microsoft Excel (Microsoft, Redmond, Washington) spreadsheet.

Diagnosis of keratoconus was based on Placido-disk-based axial topography, elevation-derived anterior corneal

curvature maps,² and criteria used in the collaborative longitudinal evaluation of keratoconus (CLEK) study.²³

The keratometric indices of curvature on the flattest meridian (K1), on the steepest meridian (K2) and total amount of corneal astigmatism (Ast) were analyzed. The following front surface derived indices were analyzed: Steepest keratometry (K_{\max}); index of surface variance (ISV), a general measure of corneal surface irregularity; index of vertical asymmetry (IVA), a measure of the difference between superior curvature and inferior curvature in the cornea (IS-Value) (similar to the commonly used I-S ratio);^{24,25} keratoconus index (KI); central keratoconus index (CKI); index of height asymmetry (IHA), the degree of symmetry of height data with respect to the horizontal meridian as axis of reflection; and index of height decentration (IHD), calculated with Fourier analysis of corneal height to quantify the degree of decentration in vertical direction. The oculus topographic keratoconus classification (TKC)²⁶ and front surface asphericity at 30° (Asph Q front 30°) were assessed.

The elevation parameters derived from the front and back surfaces at the apex, at the thinnest point and the point with highest value within the 4 mm (diameter) zone centered at the apex were calculated using the 8 mm best-fit sphere (BFS) and 8 mm best-fit toric ellipsoid (BFTE) references were computed. Back surface asphericity at 30° (Asph Q back 30°). Corneal thickness at the apex (Pachy apex) and at the thinnest point (Pachy min); pachymetric progression index at the meridian with minimum pachymetric increase (PPI min), maximal (PPI max) and the average of all meridians (PPI ave); and the relational thickness to these parameters (ART min, ART max and ART ave) were registered.²⁷ The Belin/Ambrósio enhanced ectasia display (BAD) deviation indices were computed, along with the BAD-D value which combines these indices based on a linear regression analysis.

Statistical analysis was accomplished using BioEstat 5.0 (Instituto Mamirauá, Amazonas, Brazil) and MedCalc 11.1 (MedCalc Software, Mariakerke, Belgium). Kolmogorov-Smirnov goodness of fit test was used to assess the normality of the distribution of the parameters. As the DCVA, noted as the logarithm of the minimum angle of resolution (LogMAR), has not shown a normal distribution, nonparametric Spearman correlation coefficients (ρ) were calculated. A p-value <0.05 was considered statistically significant.

RESULTS

A total of 123 eyes randomly selected of 123 patients were included. There were 70 men and 53 women, 63 right eyes and 60 left eyes. The mean age of the patients was $30.68 \pm$

9.86 years (range: 14 to 59 years) and their mean LogMAR DCVA was 0.32 ± 0.27 (range: -0.08 to 1.30). According to the Krumeich-Amsler classification of the severity of keratoconus,²⁸ 14 (11.4%) eyes were classed as grade I, 46 (37.4%) eyes as grade II, 49 (39.8%) eyes as grade III, and two (1.6%) eyes as grade IV. The Oculus TKC system (based on anterior surface indices) identified 90.2% of patients as keratoconic.

Table 1 shows the correlation coefficients between DCVA and parameters derived from the front surface and TKC. There were strong positive correlation between DCVA and K2 ($\rho = 0.643$, $p < 0.001$), K_{\max} ($\rho = 0.608$, $p < 0.001$), ISV ($\rho = 0.573$, $p < 0.001$), CKI ($\rho = 0.530$, $p < 0.001$), KI ($\rho = 0.531$, $p < 0.001$) and TKC ($\rho = 0.558$, $p < 0.001$). Front surface asphericity at 30° (Asph Q front 30°) had shown a strong negative correlation with DCVA ($\rho = -0.521$, $p < 0.001$). There was no correlation between IHA and DCVA.

The correlation coefficients between tomographic parameters (derived from 3D corneal shape) and DCVA are shown in Table 2. A strong correlation could be seen between DCVA and BAD-Df ($\rho = 0.648$, $p < 0.001$), BAD-Db ($\rho = 0.633$, $p < 0.001$) and BAD-D ($\rho = 0.577$, $p < 0.001$). The most correlated elevation indices using 8 mm BFS with DCVA were front ($\rho = 0.570$, $p < 0.001$) and back elevation ($\rho = 0.591$, $p < 0.001$) at the apex. Using the 8 mm BFTE the anterior elevation at the thinnest point had shown the strongest correlation $\rho = 0.570$, $p < 0.001$). PPI min ($\rho = 0.498$, $p < 0.001$) and ART min ($\rho = -0.498$, $p < 0.001$) had a moderate positive and negative correlation with DCVA respectively. Back surface asphericity ($\rho = -0.508$,

Table 1: Correlation coefficients between front surface-derived parameters and visual acuity in patients with keratoconus

	ρ	p-value
K1	0.499	<0.001
K2	0.643	<0.001
Astig	0.423	<0.001
K_{\max}	0.608	<0.001
ISV	0.573	<0.001
IVA	0.445	<0.001
IS value	0.421	<0.001
KI	0.531	<0.001
CKI	0.530	<0.001
IHA	0.12	0.185
IHD	0.463	<0.001
TKC	0.558	<0.001
Asph Q front 30°	-0.521	<0.001

K1: Flat meridian curvature; K2: Steepest meridian curvature; Ast: Corneal astigmatism; K_{\max} : Steepest front surface keratometry; ISV: Index of surface variance; IVA: Index of vertical asymmetry; IS-value: Difference between superior-inferior curvature of the cornea; KI: Keratoconus index; CKI: Central keratoconus index; IHA: Index of height asymmetry; IHD: Index of height decentration; TKC: Oculus topographic keratoconus classification; Asph Q front 30°: Front surface asphericity at 30°

Table 2: Correlation coefficients between tomographic parameters and visual acuity in patients with keratoconus

	ρ	p -value
BAD-Df	0.648	<0.001
BAD-Db	0.633	<0.001
BAD-D	0.577	<0.001
Ele F BFS 8 mm apex	0.570	<0.001
Ele F BFS 8 mm thinnest	0.543	<0.001
Ele F BFS 8 mm max. 4 mm zone	0.506	<0.001
Ele B BFS 8 mm apex	0.591	<0.001
Ele B BFS 8 mm thinnest	0.536	<0.001
Ele B BFS 8 mm max. 4 mm zone	0.510	<0.001
Ele F BFTE 8 mm apex	0.518	<0.001
Ele F BFTE 8 mm thinnest	0.570	<0.001
Ele F BFTE 8 mm max. 4 mm zone	0.529	<0.001
Ele B BFTE 8 mm apex	0.527	<0.001
Ele B BFTE 8 mm thinnest	0.532	<0.001
Ele B BFTE 8 mm max. 4 mm zone	0.507	<0.001
PPI min	0.498	<0.001
PPI max	0.375	<0.001
PPI avg	0.469	<0.001
ART min	-0.498	<0.001
ART max	-0.370	<0.001
ART avg	-0.453	<0.001
Pachy min	-0.316	<0.001
Pachy apex	-0.324	<0.001
Asph Q back 30°	-0.508	<0.001

BAD-Df: Deviation of front elevation difference map; BAD-Db: Deviation of front elevation difference map; BAD-D: Belin/Ambrósio enhanced ectasia total deviation value; Ele F BFS 8 mm apex: Front surface elevation at the apex using the 8 mm best-fit sphere; Ele F BFS 8 mm thinnest: Front surface elevation at the thinnest point using the 8 mm best-fit sphere; Ele F BFS 8 mm max 4 mm zone: Front surface elevation at the point with highest value within the 4 mm (diameter) zone centered at the apex using the 8 mm best-fit sphere; Ele B BFS 8 mm apex: Back surface elevation at the apex using the 8 mm best-fit sphere; Ele B BFS 8 mm thinnest: Back surface elevation at the thinnest point using the 8 mm best-fit sphere; Ele B BFS 8 mm max 4 mm zone: Back surface elevation at the point with highest value within the 4 mm (diameter) zone centered at the apex using the 8 mm best-fit sphere; Ele F BFTE 8 mm apex: Front surface elevation at the apex using the 8 mm best-fit toric ellipsoid; Ele F BFTE 8 mm thinnest: Front surface elevation at the thinnest point using the 8 mm best-fit toric ellipsoid; Ele F BFTE 8 mm max 4 mm zone: Front surface elevation at the point with highest value within the 4 mm (diameter) zone centered at the apex using the 8 mm best-fit toric ellipsoid; Ele B BFTE 8 mm apex: Back surface elevation at the apex using the 8 mm best-fit toric ellipsoid; Ele B BFTE 8 mm thinnest: Back surface elevation at the thinnest point using the 8 mm best-fit toric ellipsoid; Ele B BFTE 8 mm max 4 mm zone: Back surface elevation at the point with highest value within the 4 mm (diameter) zone centered at the apex using the 8 mm best-fit toric ellipsoid; PPI min: Minimum pachymetric progression index; PPI max: Maximum pachymetric progression index; PPI ave: Average pachymetric progression index; ART min: Ambrósio relational thickness minimum; ART max: Ambrósio relational thickness maximum; ART ave: Ambrósio relational thickness average; Pachy apex: Corneal thickness at the apex; Pachy min: Corneal thickness at the thinnest point; Asph Q back 30°: Back surface asphericity at 30°

$p < 0.001$) also had shown a moderate negative correlation with DCVA. Pachy apex ($\rho = -0.324$, $p < 0.001$) had a mild negative correlation with DCVA. Figure 1 illustrates the best correlation coefficients between topometrics and tomographic parameters and DCVA.

DISCUSSION

Corneal tomography has emerged as an important tool for diagnosing keratoconus.²⁹ Newer and varied treatment modalities, such as intracorneal rings,³⁰⁻³² corneal collagen cross-linking,^{33,34} and excimer laser therapeutic ablations,³⁵ have increased the need for better sensitivity and specificity in diagnosing keratoconus.

Maeda et al have shown that topographic indices could well predict subtle visual deterioration in patients with keratoconus using letter contrast sensitivity.³⁶ In our study we also found a good correlation between keratometric and topometric indices (corneal front surface), K2 ($\rho = 0.643$, $p < 0.001$), K_{max} ($\rho = 0.608$, $p < 0.001$), ISV ($\rho = 0.573$, $p < 0.001$) and KI ($\rho = 0.531$, $p < 0.001$).

In recent years there has been an effort to aggregate information to topographic indices and clinical data in attempt to enhance keratoconus classification. The keratoconus severity score (KSS) was conceived integrating corneal aberrometry indices.³⁷ Alió et al have developed a method to grade the disease integrating with clinical and topographic data, pachymetry, aberrometry and corneal biomechanics. They found that this method was well correlated with visual acuity of the patients.³⁸ A limitation of all of these prior classifications were a strong reliance on anterior surface parameters. Similarly, visual degradation is most closely link to changes on the anterior corneal surface.

Newer treatment modalities, such as corneal collagen cross-linking, however, are often contemplated prior to significant visual loss and may be most appropriate at an earlier stage of disease than was typical for penetrating keratoplasty. What is unique in our study is the strong correlation with visual acuity with tomographic indices not derived from the anterior corneal surface. Corneal front and back surface elevations are well-correlated with severity of the disease³⁹ and thinnest corneal thickness was inversely correlated with K readings.⁴⁰ In the present study, we found a strong correlation between the deviation of front and back elevations (Belin-Ambrosio Enhanced Ectasia Display) with DCVA $\rho = 0.648$ ($p < 0.001$) and $\rho = 0.633$ ($p < 0.001$) respectively. The front and back elevations at the apex using the 8 mm best-fit sphere was also strong correlated with DCVA $\rho = 0.570$ ($p < 0.001$) and $\rho = 0.591$ ($p < 0.001$) respectively. Corneal pachymetry at the apex has shown a mild inverse correlation with DCVA $\rho = -0.324$ ($p < 0.001$), but pachymetric progression index (PPI min: $\rho = 0.498$, $p < 0.001$) and Ambrosio's relational thickness (ART min: $\rho = -0.498$, $p < 0.001$) have demonstrated an increase in this correlation with DCVA.

Combinations of parameters using linear discriminant analysis⁴¹ or artificial intelligence⁶ are useful in detecting keratoconus patients. Although we found good strong

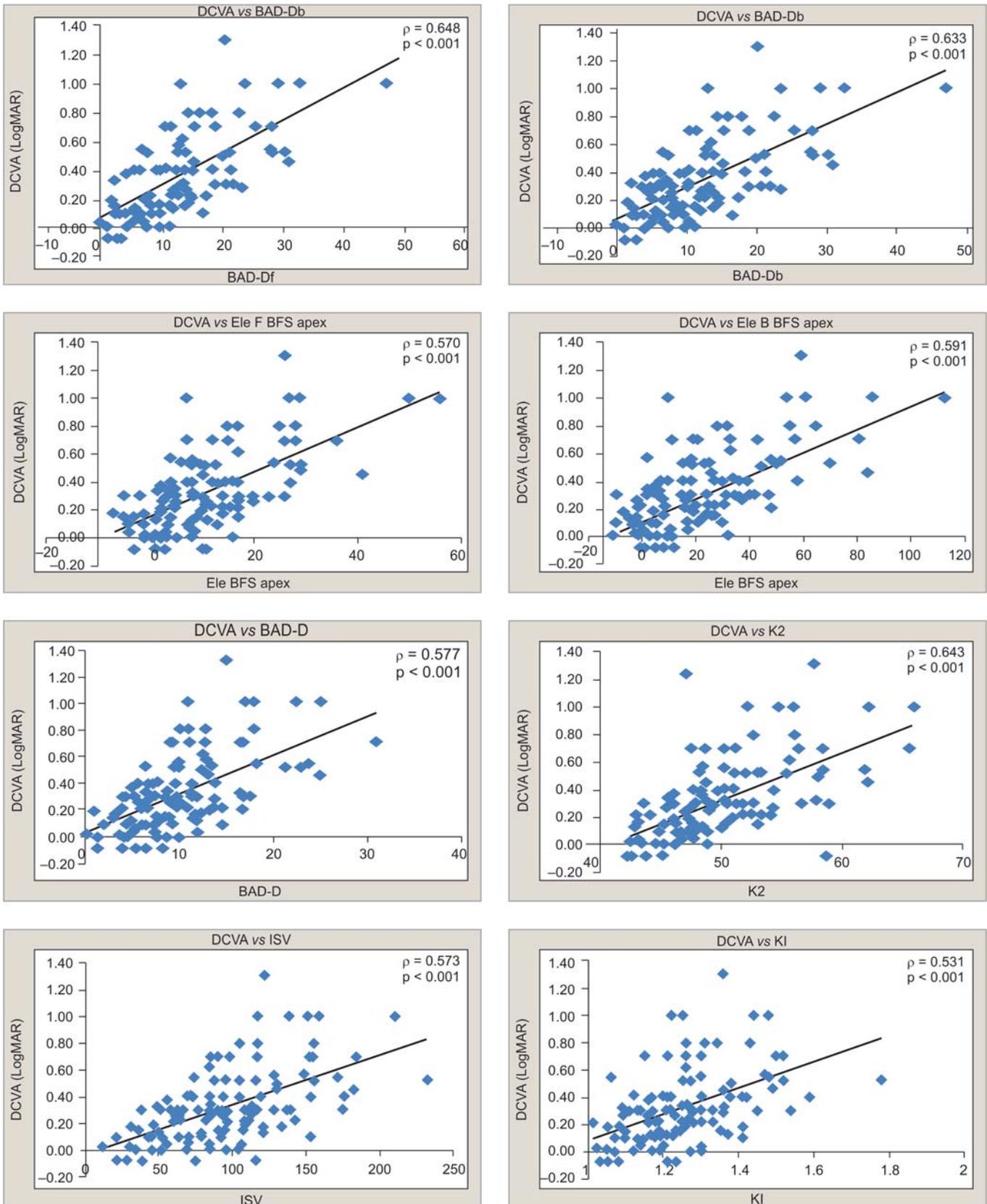


Fig. 1: Best correlations between DCVA and Pentacam’s parameters (DCVA: Distance corrected visual acuity; BAD-Df: Deviation of front elevation difference map (Belin-Ambrósio enhanced ectasia display); BAD-Db: Deviation of front elevation difference map (Belin/ Ambrosio enhanced ectasia display); Ele F BFS apex: Front surface elevation at the apex using the 8 mm best-fit sphere; Ele B BFS apex: Back surface elevation at the apex using the 8 mm best-fit sphere; BAD-D: Belin/Ambrosio enhanced ectasia total deviation value; K2: Steepest meridian of the cornea; ISV: Index of surface variance; KI: Keratoconus index

correlation indices between DCVA and tomographic parameters, combining data from tomography, topography, biomechanical properties, aberrometry and clinical can be helpful in stratifying those patients.

REFERENCES

1. Krachmer JH, Feder RS, Belin MW. Keratoconus and related noninflammatory corneal thinning disorders. *Surv Ophthalmol* 1984;28(4):293-322.
2. Rabinowitz YS. Keratoconus. *Surv Ophthalmol* 1998;42(4):297-319.
3. Tuft SJ, Moodaley LC, Gregory WM, Davison CR, Buckley RJ. Prognostic factors for the progression of keratoconus. *Ophthalmology* 1994;101(3):439-47.
4. Maeda N, Fujikado T, Kuroda T, Mihashi T, Hirohara Y, Nishida K, et al. Wavefront aberrations measured with Hartmann-Shack sensor in patients with keratoconus. *Ophthalmology* 2002;109(11):1996-2003.
5. Levine JR. The true inventors of the keratoscope and photo-keratoscope. *Br J Hist Sci* 1965;2(8):324-42.
6. Arbelaez MC, Versaci F, Vestri G, Barboni P, Savini G. Use of a support vector machine for keratoconus and subclinical keratoconus detection by topographic and tomographic data. *Ophthalmology* 2012;119(11):2231-38.
7. Klyce SD. Computer-assisted corneal topography. High-resolution graphic presentation and analysis of keratoscopy. *Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci* 1984;25(12):1426-35.
8. Wilson SE, Klyce SD, Husseini ZM. Standardized color-coded maps for corneal topography. *Ophthalmology* 1993;100(11):1723-27.
9. Rabinowitz YS, McDonnell PJ. Computer-assisted corneal topography in keratoconus. *Refract Corneal Surg* 1989;5(6):400-08.
10. Wilson SE, Lin DT, Klyce SD. Corneal topography of keratoconus. *Cornea* 1991;10(1):2-8.
11. Wilson SE, Klyce SD. Quantitative descriptors of corneal topography. A clinical study. *Archiv Ophthalmol* 1991;109(3):349-53.
12. Huang D. A reliable corneal tomography system is still needed. *Ophthalmology* 2003;110(3):455-56.
13. Ambrosio R Jr, Belin MW. Imaging of the cornea: Topography vs tomography. *J Refract Surg* 2010;26(11):847-49.
14. Belin MW, Khachikian SS, McGhee CN, Patel D. New technology in corneal imaging. *Int Ophthalmol Clin* 2010;50(3):177-89.
15. Salomao MQ, Esposito A, Dupps WJ Jr. Advances in anterior segment imaging and analysis. *Curr Opin Ophthalmol* 2009;20(4):324-32.
16. Brautaset RL, Nilsson M, Miller WL, Leach NE, Tukler JH, Bergmanson JP. Central and peripheral corneal thinning in keratoconus. *Cornea* 2012 May 3. [Epub ahead of print].
17. Mohamed S, Lee GK, Rao SK, Wong AL, Cheng AC, Li EY, et al. Repeatability and reproducibility of pachymetric mapping with Visante anterior segment—optical coherence tomography. *Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci* 2007;48(12):5499-504.
18. McAlinden C, Khadka J, Pesudovs K. A comprehensive evaluation of the precision (repeatability and reproducibility) of the Oculus Pentacam HR. *Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci* 2011;52(10):7731-37.
19. Kymes SM, Walline JJ, Zadnik K, Gordon MO. Quality of life in keratoconus. *Am J Ophthalmol* 2004;138(4):527-35.
20. Kymes SM, Walline JJ, Zadnik K, Sterling J, Gordon MO. Changes in the quality-of-life of people with keratoconus. *Am J Ophthalmol* 2008;145(4):611-17.
21. Cesnekova T, Skorkovska K, Petrova S, Cermakova S. Visual functions and quality of life in patients with keratoconus. *Cesk Slov Oftalmol* 2011;67(2):51-54.
22. Mihaltz K, Kovacs I, Kranitz K, Erdei G, Nemeth J, Nagy ZZ. Mechanism of aberration balance and the effect on retinal image quality in keratoconus: Optical and visual characteristics of keratoconus. *J Cataract Refract Surg* 2011;37(5):914-22.
23. Zadnik K, Barr JT, Edrington TB, Everett DF, Jameson M, McMahon TT, et al. Baseline findings in the collaborative longitudinal evaluation of keratoconus (CLEK) Study. *Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci* 1998;39(13):2537-46.
24. Rabinowitz YS. Videokeratographic indices to aid in screening for keratoconus. *J Refract Surg* 1995;11(5):371-79.
25. Li X, Yang H, Rabinowitz YS. Keratoconus: Classification scheme based on videokeratography and clinical signs. *J Cataract Refract Surg* 2009;35(9):1597-603.
26. Krumeich JH, Daniel J, Knulle A. Live-epikeratophakia for keratoconus. *J Cataract Refract Surg* 1998;24(4):456-63.
27. Ambrosio R Jr., Caiado AL, Guerra FP, Louzada R, Roy AS, Luz A, et al. Novel pachymetric parameters based on corneal tomography for diagnosing keratoconus. *J Refract Surg* 2011;27(10):753-58.
28. Krumeich JH, Kezirian GM. Circular keratotomy to reduce astigmatism and improve vision in stage I and II keratoconus. *J Refract Surg* 2009;25(4):357-65.
29. Correia FF, Ramos I, Lopes B, Salomão MQ, Luz A, Correa RO, et al. Topometric and tomographic indices for the diagnosis of keratoconus. *Int J Kerat Ect Cor Dis* 2012;1(2):92-99.
30. Siganos D, Ferrara P, Chatzinikolas K, Bessis N, Papastergiou G. Ferrara intrastromal corneal rings for the correction of keratoconus. *J Cataract Refract Surg* 2002;28(11):1947-51.
31. Colin J, Cochener B, Savary G, Malet F. Correcting keratoconus with intracorneal rings. *J Cataract Refract Surg* 2000;26(8):1117-22.
32. Torquetti L, Berbel RF, Ferrara P. Long-term follow-up of intrastromal corneal ring segments in keratoconus. *J Cataract Refract Surg* 2009;35(10):1768-73.
33. Wollensak G, Spoerl E, Seiler T. Riboflavin/ultraviolet-a-induced collagen crosslinking for the treatment of keratoconus. *Am J Ophthalmol* 2003;135(5):620-27.
34. Koller T, Pajic B, Vinciguerra P, Seiler T. Flattening of the cornea after collagen crosslinking for keratoconus. *J Cataract Refract Surg* 2011;37(8):1488-92.
35. Kanellopoulos AJ. Comparison of sequential vs same-day simultaneous collagen cross-linking and topography-guided PRK for treatment of keratoconus. *J Refract Surg* 2009;25(9):S812-18.
36. Maeda N, Sato S, Watanabe H, Inoue Y, Fujikado T, Shimomura Y, et al. Prediction of letter contrast sensitivity using videokeratographic indices. *Am J Ophthalmol* 2000;129(6):759-63.
37. McMahon TT, Szczotka-Flynn L, Barr JT, Anderson RJ, Slaughter ME, Lass JH, et al. A new method for grading the severity of keratoconus: The keratoconus severity score (KSS). *Cornea* 2006;25(7):794-800.

38. Alio JL, Pinero DP, Aleson A, Teus MA, Barraquer RI, Murta J, et al. Keratoconus-integrated characterization considering anterior corneal aberrations, internal astigmatism, and corneal biomechanics. *J Cataract Refract Surg* 2011;37(3):552-68.
39. Ishii R, Kamiya K, Igarashi A, Shimizu K, Utsumi Y, Kumanomido T. Correlation of corneal elevation with severity of keratoconus by means of anterior and posterior topographic analysis. *Cornea* 2012 Mar;31(3):253-58.
40. Torquetti L, Ferrara G, Ferrara P. Correlation of anterior segment parameters in keratoconus patients. *Int J Kerat Ect Cor Dis* 2012;1(2):87-91.
41. Gatinel D, Saad A. The challenges of the detection of subclinical keratoconus at its earliest stage. *Int J Keratoco Ectatic Corneal Dis* 2012;1(1):36-43.

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Bernardo T Lopes

Research Associate, Department of Ophthalmology, Rio de Janeiro Corneal Tomography and Biomechanics Study Group, RJ, Brazil

Isaac C Ramos

Research Associate, Department of Ophthalmology, Rio de Janeiro Corneal Tomography and Biomechanics Study Group, RJ, Brazil

Fernando Faria-Correia

Research Associate, Department of Ophthalmology, University of Porto, Porto, Portugal

Allan Luz

Research Associate, Department of Ophthalmology, Rio de Janeiro Corneal Tomography and Biomechanics Study Group, RJ, Brazil

Bruno de Freitas Valbon

Research Associate, Department of Ophthalmology, Rio de Janeiro Corneal Tomography and Biomechanics Study Group, RJ, Brazil

Michael Wellington Belin

Professor, Department of Ophthalmology and Vision Science University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ, USA

Renato Ambrósio Jr

Professor, Clinical Director, Department of Ophthalmology, Rio de Janeiro Corneal Tomography and Biomechanics Study Group, RJ Brazil, e-mail: renatoambrosiojr@terra.com.br

Correspondence Address: Rua Conde de Bonfim 211/712, Tijuca, Rio de Janeiro, RJ 20520-050, Brazil, e-mail: renatoambrosiojr@terra.com.br