

1 **Combined structure-function analysis in glaucoma screening**

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49 Abbreviations and acronyms: SAP standard automated perimetry, ONH optic nerve head, RNFL retinal nerve
50 fibre layer, SD-OCT spectral-domain optical coherence tomography, S-F structure-function, VF visual field,
51 NFBC Northern Finland Birth Cohort, BCVA best corrected visual acuity, IOP intraocular pressure, GAT
52 Goldmann applanation tonometry, CCT central corneal thickness, SITA Swedish interactive threshold
53 algorithm, MLC machine learning classifier, EGS European Glaucoma Society

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56

57 **SYNOPSIS**

58 The applicability of a structure-function report for glaucoma screening was evaluated in 3001 middle-aged
59 subjects of a birth cohort. Diagnostic performance was moderate. Spatially corresponding structure and function
60 abnormalities were significantly correlated to glaucomatous damage.

61

62 **ABSTRACT**

63 **Aims:** To assess the applicability of a structure-function (S-F) analysis combining spectral-domain optical
64 coherence tomography (SD-OCT) and standard automated perimetry (SAP) in glaucoma screening in a middle-
65 aged population.

66 **Methods:** A randomised sample of 3001 Caucasian 45-49 -year-old participants of the Northern Finland Birth
67 Cohort (NFBC) Eye Study was examined. We performed an eye examination, including 24-2 SAP, optic nerve
68 head (ONH) and retinal nerve fibre layer (RNFL) photography and SD-OCT of the peripapillary RNFL. The S-
69 F report was generated by Forum Glaucoma Workplace software. OCT, SAP and the S-F analysis were
70 evaluated against clinical glaucoma diagnosis, i.e., the positive '2 out of 3' rule based on the clinician's
71 evaluation of ONH and RNFL photographs and visual fields (VF).

72 **Results:** At a specificity of 97.5%, the sensitivity for glaucomatous damage was 26% for abnormal OCT, 35%
73 for SAP and 44% for S-F analysis. Estimated AUCs were 0.74, 0.85 and 0.76, and the corresponding positive
74 predictive values were 8 %, 10 % and 12 %, respectively. By applying a classification tree approach combining
75 OCT, SAP and defect localization data, a sensitivity of 77% was achieved at 90% specificity. In a localisation
76 analysis of glaucomatous structural and functional defects, the correlation with glaucoma increased
77 significantly if the abnormal VF test points were located on borderline or abnormal OCT zones.

78 **Conclusion:** SAP performs slightly better than OCT in glaucoma screening of middle-aged population.
79 However, the diagnostic capability can be improved significantly by structure-function analysis.

80 **Keywords:** glaucoma, population screening, optical coherence tomography (OCT), standard automated
81 perimetry (SAP), structure-function

82

83 **INTRODUCTION**

84 Glaucomatous optic neuropathy is among the world's leading causes of irreversible blindness.[1] Glaucoma
85 largely meets the criteria for systematic screening of the World Health Organization[2]. However, screening
86 for glaucoma has not been recommended due to the lack of a reliable test set, screening protocol[3] and
87 evidence on the cost-effectiveness of screening among the general population.[4-11]

88 Although there is still no worldwide consensus for the diagnosis of glaucoma, traditionally the presence of
89 congruent progressive structural and functional damage is required for diagnosis.[10-15] Automated threshold
90 perimetry represents the cornerstone of the functional assessment of glaucoma. The optic nerve head (ONH)
91 and the retinal nerve fibre layer (RNFL) are typically evaluated in a clinical examination and/or using ONH
92 and RNFL photography.[12-16] In addition, a quantitative evaluation, most often by optical coherence
93 tomography (OCT) with peripapillary and macular RNFL analysis, is used in many glaucoma units for
94 assessing structural damage and its progression.[17-18] The fact that OCT has been reported to perform better
95 in moderate than in early glaucoma[17] may pose challenges in screening for glaucoma with automated
96 imaging.

97
98 Software applications have been developed to analyse and display the structure-function (S-F) relationship in
99 an integrated format, e.g., a map for an average eye (Figure 1).[19] Until recently, there has been little evidence
100 on the performance of combined reports in detecting or monitoring glaucoma. These easy-to-read reports have
101 been evaluated mainly qualitatively to support or exclude the clinical diagnosis of glaucoma.

102
103 In this report, we analysed the automatically produced combined reports in the six zones of the average RNFL
104 thickness (Cirrus SD-OCT) and the corresponding VF (Humphrey Field Analyzer). To our knowledge, the
105 present study is the first to have investigated the performance of an automatically generated S-F analysis as a
106 potential method for systematic glaucoma screening.

107

108 **METHODS**

109 **Study population**

110 In this screening trial, we report the results of 3001 participants (5964 eyes) of the Northern Finland Birth
111 Cohort (NFBC) Eye Study examined at a single visit in 2012-2015.[20-21] The Eye Study is a satellite of the
112 principal NFBC study evaluating the general health and the quality of life since the birth of the 1966-born
113 cohort in the two northernmost Finnish provinces (Oulu and Lapland). Of the 10 321 NFBC participants living
114 in Finland in 2011, 50 % (5155) were randomised to the Eye Study with the participation rate of 60% (3070).
115 Of them, 3001 subjects had inclusive eye examination data for this report (Supplementary Figure 1). Written
116 informed consent was obtained from all participants. The study was approved by the Ethical Committee of
117 Northern Ostrobothnia Hospital District and adhered to the principles of the Declaration of Helsinki.

118

119 **Data collection**

120 We assessed refraction, best corrected visual acuity (BCVA), intraocular pressure (IOP) both with rebound
121 tonometer (Icare Ltd., Vantaa, Finland) and Goldmann applanation tonometer (GAT). We obtained grayscale
122 and color fundus images, including stereoscopic ONH photographs in mydriasis (Canon CF-60DSi Digital
123 Mydriatic Fundus Camera and an attached Canon EOS-1Ds MK III SLR Digital Camera, Canon Inc., Tokyo,
124 Japan). RNFL photographs were taken with a monochromatic blue interference filter (495 nm). Visual fields
125 (VF) were examined with SITA Standard 24-2 test pattern of the Humphrey Field Analyzer II-i (Carl Zeiss
126 Meditec AG, Oberkochen, Germany). Cirrus SD-OCT 4000 (software version 6.0.0; Carl Zeiss Meditec AG,
127 Oberkochen, Germany) was used for the assessment of the anterior segment and the RNFL thickness. We
128 evaluated the combined S-F report of the circumpapillary OCT and SAP automatically formed by Forum
129 Glaucoma Workplace software (Carl Zeiss Meditec AG, Oberkochen, Germany).

130

131 **Clinical glaucoma diagnosis as the reference standard**

132 In the assessment of the performance of the combined S-F display, we used clinical glaucoma diagnosis as the
133 reference standard. According to the Finnish Evidence-Based Guideline for Glaucoma[14-15], we analysed
134 the stereoscopic ONH photographs, RNFL photographs and SAP to define glaucoma following the ‘2 out of
135 3’ rule (Supplementary Table 1). In the ONH stereo photographs, the disc, the appearance of the neuroretinal
136 rim and potential hemorrhages were assessed. In the RNFL photographs, a local dark wedge-shaped area or a
137 diffuse poorly visible RNFL pattern were considered as defects, paying attention to possible asymmetry

138 between the eyes and the hemispheres. A glaucomatous VF defect was defined as 1) at least three adjacent test
139 points at $p < 5\%$ and at least one point of these at $p < 1\%$ on the pattern deviation plot (the '5-5-1 cluster'), 2) the
140 glaucoma hemifield test (GHT) graded as 'outside normal limits', and/or 3) the pattern standard deviation
141 abnormal at $p < 5\%$ level. Reliability indices less than 20% for fixation losses and 15% for false positive
142 responses were demanded for a reliable VF.

143

144 An ONH notch, an RNFL damage or a typical VF defect were each considered as one out of three glaucomatous
145 findings (Supplementary Table 1). The reference standard of this report, i.e., definite glaucoma, required
146 congruent glaucomatous changes in at least two out of these three findings. IOP was not included in glaucoma
147 diagnosis.

148

149 A total of 3001 persons (5964 eyes) were included. The demographics are presented in Supplementary Table
150 2. The comprehensive evaluation protocol and the results of the clinical assessment have been described in
151 detail earlier.[20-21] Definite glaucoma was diagnosed in 43 eyes of 33 persons (1.1% [95% CI 0.8-1.5]). Of
152 them, only four participants (12%) had a prior glaucoma diagnosis. The majority (73%) of the glaucomatous
153 subjects had mild glaucoma (SAP mean deviation [MD] equal to or higher than -6.0 dB). Their median (range)
154 MD and pattern standard deviation (PSD) were -2.0 dB (-22.2 to 0.9) and 2.7 dB (1.2 to 14.1). The mean IOP
155 in the glaucomatous eyes was 16.6 ± 5.4 mmHg (range 9-35) and 88% of them were normotensive at the time
156 of the eye examination. The glaucomatous eyes had a spherical equivalent of -1.9 ± 3.5 D. The mean angle
157 opening distance (AOD) assessed 750 μm from the anterior chamber angle was 965 ± 336 μm in glaucomatous
158 eyes and 890 ± 320 μm in healthy eyes ($p=0.295$). The smallest AOD in a glaucomatous eye was 346 μm
159 indicating an open angle in all measured eyes.

160

161 **Structure analysis with OCT**

162 The circumpapillary RNFL thickness was analysed in the six zones of the combined report (Figure 1,
163 Supplementary Table 3).[19] Compared to the normative database, RNFL thickness over the 95th percentile
164 and between the 5th and the 95th percentile were regarded as normal (color-coded as white or green,

165 respectively). Measures below the 5th percentile were rated as borderline (yellow) and those below the 1st
166 percentile as abnormal (red). We explored the color-coded zones in a gradually worsening order starting from
167 one at least borderline (yellow or red) zone to six abnormal (red) zones (Supplementary Table 3) and calculated
168 statistical measures of their performance (Figure 2 A-B, Table 1).

Approx. cut-off specificities	Specificity (%) (95% CI)	Sensitivity (%) (95% CI)	PPV (%)	Number of defects	Combination of defective locations ¹ for cut-off
OCT defect					
97.5%	97.7 (97.3 – 98.1)	25.6 (13.5 – 41.2)	7.5	≥ 3	2 yellow/red zones, 1 red zone
95%	94.5 (93.9 – 95.0)	34.9 (21.0 – 50.9)	4.4	≥ 2	1 yellow/red zone, 1 red zone
90%	91.7 (91.0 – 92.4)	44.2 (29.1 – 60.1)	3.7	≥ 2	2 yellow/red zones
80% ²	-	-	-	-	-
VF defect					
97.5%	97.6 (97.2 – 97.6)	34.9 (21.0 – 50.9)	9.6	≥ 9	<5%, <2%, <1%, <0.5% (×6)
95%	95.0 (94.3 – 95.5)	53.5 (37.7 – 68.8)	7.1	≥ 7	<5%, <2%, <1% (×2), <0.5% (×3)
90%	90.8 (90.0 – 91.5)	58.1 (42.1 – 73.0)	4.4	≥ 5	<5%, <2%, <1%, <0.5% (×2)
80%	82.7 (81.6 – 83.6)	72.1 (56.3 – 84.7)	2.9	≥ 4	<5%, <2%, <1%, <0.5%
VF cluster analysis					
97.5%	97.6 (97.2 – 98.0)	34.9 (21.0 – 50.9)	9.6	≥ 9	<5%, <2%, <1%, <0.5% (×6)
95%	94.7 (94.1 – 95.3)	55.8 (39.9 – 70.9)	7.1	≥ 7	<5%, <2% (×2), <1%, <0.5% (×3)
90%	91.5 (90.7 – 92.2)	58.1 (42.1 – 73.0)	4.7	≥ 5	<5%, <2%, <1%, <0.5% (×2)
80%	79.5 (78.4 – 80.5)	76.7 (61.4 – 88.2)	2.4	≥ 4	<5%, <2% (×2), <1%
Structure-function defect					
97.5%	97.7 (97.3 – 98.1)	44.2 (29.1 – 60.1)	12.3	≥ 7 + 1	<5% (×2), <2%, <1%, <0.5% (×3) and 1 yellow/red zone
95%	95.0 (94.5 – 95.6)	51.2 (35.5 – 66.7)	7.0	≥ 5 + 1	<5%, <2% (×2), 1%, 0.5% and 1 yellow/red zone
90%	89.2 (88.4 – 90.0)	62.8 (46.7 – 77.0)	4.0	≥ 4 + 1	<5% (×2), <2% <1% and 1 yellow/red zone
80%	81.5 (80.5 – 82.5)	65.1 (49.1 – 79.0)	2.5	≥ 2 + 1	<5%, <2% and 1 yellow/red zone

169
170

171 **Table 1.** Sensitivities at the cut-off specificities of 80%, 90%, 95% and 97.5%. These cut-offs were rounded to the nearest applicable figure due to the non-
172 continuous nature of the data. ‘Visual field defects’ refer to non-clustered defective VF test points whereas ‘cluster analysis’ refers to at least three tangential
173 defective VF test points. The number and severity of defective test locations are presented.

174 ¹Combination of defective test points on the SAP pattern deviation plot at p<5%, 2%, 1% or 0.5% and/or number and depth of defective OCT zones.

175 ²For OCT defects, no suitable combination was found with the specificity of 80%.

176 **Function analysis with SAP**

177 We evaluated sensitivity values of all 52 test locations of the SAP pattern deviation plot expressed on a
178 logarithmic scale (dB). In the function analysis, the test points were automatically grouped into six sectors:
179 superotemporal, superonasal, nasal, inferonasal, inferotemporal and temporal, following the S-F
180 correspondence map (Figure 1).[19] We assessed the number, location and depth of the defective points on a
181 gradually worsening scale (Supplementary Table 4), ranging from a single test point at $p < 5\%$ to different
182 combinations of at least eleven abnormal points. Sensitivity, specificity and AUC for these VF defects were
183 calculated (Figure 2 C-D, Table 1).

184

185 **Cluster analysis**

186 We also explored glaucomatous VF defects with at least three tangentially clustered points on the pattern
187 deviation plot (Figure 2 E-F, Table 1) to assess the value of cluster criterion in detecting glaucoma with SAP.

188

189 **Combined structure-function analysis**

190 We evaluated the peripapillary RNFL thickness in the six zones superimposed with the 24-2 SAP in a
191 combined report provided by Forum Glaucoma Workplace 2.0 (Figure 1). We used the statistical grading of
192 the RNFL provided by the Cirrus software. We evaluated whether defective VF test points located on
193 borderline or abnormal OCT zones would be associated with glaucomatous damage more accurately than a
194 defective point on any colored zone (Figure 2 G-H, Figure 3, Table 1, Supplementary Figure 2, Supplementary
195 Table 5). The significance of the location and S-F correlation of the defective points was also assessed.
196 Moreover, in order to demonstrate the glaucoma screening process, a classification tree was created (Figure
197 4).

198

199 **Statistical analysis**

200 Statistical analyses were performed using IBM SPSS Statistics (version 25 SPSS Inc., Armonk, NY, USA)
201 and R programming language (version 4.0.1). All eyes with successful examinations were included in the
202 analyses. We used a log-linear approach, i.e., VF values were evaluated on a logarithmic scale and RNFL data
203 on a linear scale. Normally distributed data were reported as mean and standard deviation (SD), whereas non-

204 normally distributed data were expressed as median and range. We used the chi-square test to compare
205 categorical data, the t-test for normally distributed data and the Mann-Whitney test for non-normally
206 distributed data. The alpha level (type 1 error) was set at 0.05. The sensitivity, specificity and estimated AUCs
207 for the different potential screening parameters were calculated using the clinical glaucoma diagnosis as a
208 reference standard (Figure 2, Table 1). Due to the categorical nature of the data, an estimation of the AUC was
209 calculated by interrupted sensitivity-specificity pairs and therefore rounded cut-off specificities are reported
210 (Figure 2, Table 1, Supplementary Tables 3, 4 and 5). A defect localization analysis was conducted to illustrate
211 the correlation of the functional defect with the corresponding OCT zone exhibiting glaucomatous damage
212 (Figure 3, Supplementary Figure 2). A decision tree was created to demonstrate the most relevant steps in
213 detecting glaucomatous damage in this population when RNFL thickness and VF sensitivity were combined
214 (Figure 4).

215

216 **RESULTS**

217 **Structure analysis (OCT)**

218 There was a statistically significant difference in the RNFL thicknesses between glaucomatous and non-
219 glaucomatous eyes in the five sectors not including the temporal zone 6 (Figure 1, Supplementary Table 2).
220 The majority of the abnormal OCT findings had high specificity of 98-99% with poor sensitivity of 26% or
221 less (Figure 2 A-B, Supplementary Table 3). The highest sensitivity was 67% with a corresponding specificity
222 of 74% if at least one yellow zone or worse was observed. Sensitivities at fixed specificities are presented in
223 Table 1. Most commonly, zone 2 (inferotemporal RNFL) and least frequently, zones 5 and 6 (temporal and
224 nasal RNFL, respectively) were affected.

225

226 **Function analysis (SAP)**

227 We included a total of 38 options for VF defects when evaluating findings from one to at least eleven defective
228 points observed on the pattern deviation plot (Supplementary Table 4). VF defects were also arranged on a
229 ROC curve in a worsening order, starting from a single defective point with $P < 5\%$ (Figure 2 C-F). We
230 explored both randomly organized (Figure 2 C-D) and clustered (Figure 2 E-F) defective test points. In the

231 case of few abnormal points, the adoption of a cluster criterion improved the specificity. Nonetheless, in the
232 case of six or more defective points, there was no difference in accuracy between these two methods.
233 Sensitivities at fixed specificities are presented in Table 1. The ‘5-5-1 cluster’, a common VF criterion for a
234 glaucomatous defect, resulted in a sensitivity of 77% and a specificity of 75%.

235

236 **Combined structure-function analysis**

237 The S-F association of damage increased significantly if defective VF test points were located on a zone with
238 at least borderline RNFL thickness (yellow or red). The localization of the VF defect on the abnormal (red)
239 zone did not increase the association with glaucomatous damage any further (Figure 3, Supplementary Figure
240 2). Sensitivities at fixed specificities are presented in Table 1.

241

242 **Classification tree**

243 We analysed and chose five cut-offs in the form of a classification tree (Figure 4). The number, depth and
244 clustering of the defective VF test points, and the number, severity and location of the abnormal OCT zones
245 along with their combinations were considered. The specificity of the five-step process was 90% with a
246 sensitivity of 77%. By applying this approach, 33 of 43 glaucomatous eyes were detected, whereas 610 of
247 5921 healthy eyes were misdiagnosed as having glaucoma.

248

249 **DISCUSSION**

250 We report the performance of a structure-function analysis in a middle-aged population-based cohort to
251 evaluate the potential advantage of an easy-to-read combined report in glaucoma screening. To the best of our
252 knowledge, this is the first study evaluating the applicability of the automated analysis by Cirrus SD-OCT and
253 Humphrey SAP in glaucoma screening.

254

255 Firstly, we assessed several combinations of borderline and abnormal OCT zones to obtain the best accuracy
256 in detecting glaucomatous damage (Figure 2 A-B, Table 1). In agreement with the previous literature[18, 22-
257 24], inferotemporal RNFL defects were most frequent. With a specificity of 95% or more, involving at least

258 two defective zones and including at least one red zone, the sensitivity was poor (35%). In our recent
259 publication, abnormal (red) peripapillary or macular RNFL analysis or their combination resulted in
260 sensitivities of 53%, 50% or 61% with corresponding specificities of 95%, 92% or 90%, respectively.[25]
261 Therefore, this evidence does not support the use of sole automated imaging in general population screening.
262 The Choosing Wisely Recommendations by the Finnish Guidelines and the European Glaucoma Society
263 (EGS) similarly warn against defining a diagnosis or progression of glaucoma based only on OCT, which
264 provides mostly a statistical deviation from a reference database.[11-12]

265

266 Secondly, we analysed the number and depth of the defective test points on the SAP pattern deviation plot
267 with two approaches: 1) regardless of their localization, or 2) using the cluster criterion (Figure 2 C-F, Table
268 1). When we applied a specificity of 95%, the sensitivities were 54% and 56%, respectively. Surprisingly, at
269 least three contiguous defective VF points did not perform any better than randomly organized defective points
270 in detecting glaucoma. In the previous literature, combining structure and function performed significantly
271 better than the best independent structural and functional measurements[12-13, 26] even if VF parameters
272 (e.g., PSD) without any spatial correspondence to the structural measures were included.[26-27] The early
273 diagnosis of glaucoma is still a challenge, as even up to 35% of the retinal ganglion cells (RGCs) may be lost
274 before there are apparent signs of damage (PSD at $p < 0.5\%$) in the SAP.[28] Nonetheless, in our study, SAP
275 surpassed OCT in detecting early glaucoma.

276

277 Thirdly, the main aim of this report was to evaluate the performance of the automated structure-function report.
278 The S-F analysis outperformed the single measures by only a relatively narrow margin (Figure 2, Table 1).
279 However, a localization analysis (Figure 3) showed the importance of corresponding VF and OCT defects.
280 The surprising failure to detect a difference between at least borderline (yellow or red) and abnormal (red)
281 OCT zones in the combined analysis may reflect the mild glaucomatous damage detected in most cases. We
282 included both borderline and abnormal OCT measurements to find optimal sensitivity and specificity on the
283 gradually worsening OCT defect curve (Figure 2, Supplementary Tables 2 and 4). To the contrary, in a recent

284 worldwide consensus on objective VF and OCT criteria for glaucomatous optic neuropathy, only abnormal
285 (red) RNFL zones were regarded as glaucomatous.[18]

286

287 A classification tree was created to demonstrate the structure-function analysis in a real-life scenario (Figure
288 4). This kind of decision aid could be applied in everyday use as an inexpensive, automated and simple
289 glaucoma screening tool utilized e.g., by ophthalmic technicians in glaucoma detection.[6] An interesting
290 approach would be to apply machine learning classifiers (MLCs) for analyzing OCT and SAP data for
291 screening purposes. MLCs have been reported to outperform general ophthalmologists in detecting early to
292 moderate glaucoma with AUC values of 0.93 and 0.88, respectively.[29] Although our classification tree with
293 five branches was able to separate the glaucomatous and non-glaucomatous eyes the specificity of 90% and
294 sensitivity of 77% would still be way too modest to establish a screening program for the general population.

295

296 The poor structure-function correlation may be explained by the fact that mapping is based on a standard eye.
297 In particular, a high axial length, ocular torsion and angle of temporal raphé (the line dividing the superior and
298 inferior RNFL) have been reported to influence the mapping of the RNFL thickness and the corresponding VF
299 area.[19, 30] The S-F agreement has been suggested to be improved by including disc and macular OCT scans
300 along with 24-2 and 10-2 VFs but convincing evidence is missing.[27, 31-32]

301

302 Combined maps have been available for almost two decades. Nonetheless, S-F mapping has been difficult to
303 validate, especially without an objective reference standard. Many studies have focused on measuring the
304 overall correlation between RNFL thickness and VF sensitivity.[19, 22-23, 26, 33] Cui et al.[34] reported an
305 agreement rate of 75% and kappa statistic of 0.62 between glaucoma specialists and automated S-F analysis
306 combining Spectralis SD-OCT and Heidelberg Edge Perimeter data. Similarly, Hood et al. reported an
307 excellent inter-rater agreement of two experienced non-ophthalmologists assessing one-page reports including
308 data from Topcon OCT macular and ONH scans along with Humphrey 24-2 SAP.[35] However, the above-
309 mentioned study populations of 45 and 50 glaucomatous subjects, respectively, differ from our general
310 population.

311

312 We found relatively poor sensitivities for all our diagnostic parameters. Although the sensitivity of a screening
313 test is important, we additionally expect reasonable specificity to minimize subsequent over-diagnostics,
314 unwarranted burden and costs to society, especially in the case of a non-fatal and, in many cases, non-
315 aggressive disease (e.g., open-angle glaucoma). When resources are limited, the 14-fold false positives
316 compared to the true positives (Figure 4) is alarming and would burden both patients and the system. Prevent
317 Blindness America has recommended that a screening test should have at least 85% sensitivity and 95%
318 specificity to identify all moderate and advanced glaucoma cases and be able to detect the majority of the early
319 cases.[36]

320

321 According to our study, the accuracy of the combined S-F analysis is poor to assess the general population.
322 Nevertheless, the diagnostic accuracy is always dependent on the reference standard. As the prevalence of
323 definite glaucoma in this cross-sectional analysis was relatively low, in the future, we will be able to use the
324 long-term follow-up data of this cohort as a golden standard for re-assessing the long-term value of various
325 screening tests.

326

327 Screening particular risk groups, e.g., individuals with a family history of glaucoma, African descent, persons
328 with myopia or diabetes, could be more useful. In a study conducted in the UK, Burr et al. estimated that
329 screening of the above-mentioned high-risk individuals would include 37% of the country's population.[5]

330 The prevalence of glaucoma would still be too low to support cost-effectiveness of screening compared to the
331 opportunistic case finding. In a Finnish simulation model, screening was reported as being cost saving among
332 the elderly, i.e., aged 75-79 years, the main explanation being that in the model treatment was discontinued in
333 non-glaucomatous subjects.[7] The cost-effectiveness of screening in the NFBC Eye Study will be evaluated
334 in the future when also the non-screened group will be examined and the visual disability compared with
335 initially screened group.

336

337 Since the purpose of this study was to assess a potential screening tool among the population, some
338 compromises in the diagnostic protocol were inevitable. Although repeated testing should be performed to
339 verify a glaucomatous VF defect, the study protocol included only one VF examination to mimic a real-life
340 glaucoma screening. We included all cohort members attending the eye examinations with test results enabling
341 glaucoma diagnostics. For example, we did not exclude eyes with profound refractive errors. VF data was
342 evaluated as a part of the reference standard and as an index test. However, the index tests were evaluated by
343 a person masked to the reference standard. Similarly, the definition of reference standard was masked to the
344 index test analyses. Our study population was a geographically defined, middle-aged Caucasian cohort and the
345 results may not be generalized to other more diverse populations.

346

347 The NFBC Eye Study is the first randomised population-based screening trial for glaucoma. In this cross-
348 sectional analysis, we did not find an acceptable diagnostic cut-off by using only OCT or SAP in the glaucoma
349 screening. Nonetheless, this report suggests that their combination may aid in the screening and diagnosis of
350 glaucoma. However, further studies will be needed to assess the applicability of the structure-function analysis,
351 especially if it is applied among the elderly as well as in glaucoma risk groups.

352

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363

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467

468 **FIGURE LEGENDS**

469 **Figure 1.** The six zones of the peripapillary RNFL thickness are demonstrated in the fundus view of a left eye
470 (A and B). In the combined structure-function display (E), OCT data is inverted around the horizontal axis (C)
471 to match the corresponding SAP 24-2 data (D), i.e., inferior nerve fibres are presented in the superior part of
472 the S-F display. The measured RNFL zones are as follows: superotemporal (41° – 80°), superonasal (81° –
473 120°), nasal (121° – 230°), inferonasal (231° – 270°), inferotemporal (271° – 310°) and temporal (311° - 40°).

474 This correspondence map was introduced by Garway-Heath et al. in 2000.[19] Due to the greater density of
475 the nerve fibres on the superior and inferior poles of the optic disc, these ONH sectors are outlined as being
476 narrower, although they represent a larger VF area. Thus, the narrower superotemporal, superonasal,
477 inferonasal and inferotemporal sectors each comprise a 40° rim area whereas the nasal and temporal sectors
478 consist of a 110° and 90° area, respectively.

479

480 **Figure 2.** The performance of the various observed OCT abnormalities (A and B), visual field defects (C-F)
481 and structure-function analysis (G-H) detecting definite glaucoma are presented in a gradually worsening
482 order. For VF data, both randomly organized (C-D) and clustered (E-F) defective points are introduced. In the
483 left column, sensitivities and specificities are expressed from 0% to 100% and in the right column, especially
484 the highest specificities of 90-100% are displayed. The explanations for the single points on a ROC curve are
485 described in Supplementary Tables 3, 4 and 5.

486

487 **Figure 3.** Defect localization analysis combining visual field defective points with a pattern deviation at $p < 5\%$,
488 $< 2\%$, $< 1\%$ or $< 0.5\%$ and a simultaneous OCT finding. Correlation coefficients are presented on a grayscale
489 here and in numeric values in Supplementary Figure 2. The data of the right eyes were evaluated as a mirror
490 image to present all of the data uniformly as left eyes in this analysis.

491

492 **Figure 4.** The classification tree for screening of glaucoma in this study population. Demonstrative structure-
493 function images of glaucomatous eyes in this cohort are presented.

494 ¹Zone 2 (inferotemporal) and zone 3 (superonasal) are presented in Figure 1.

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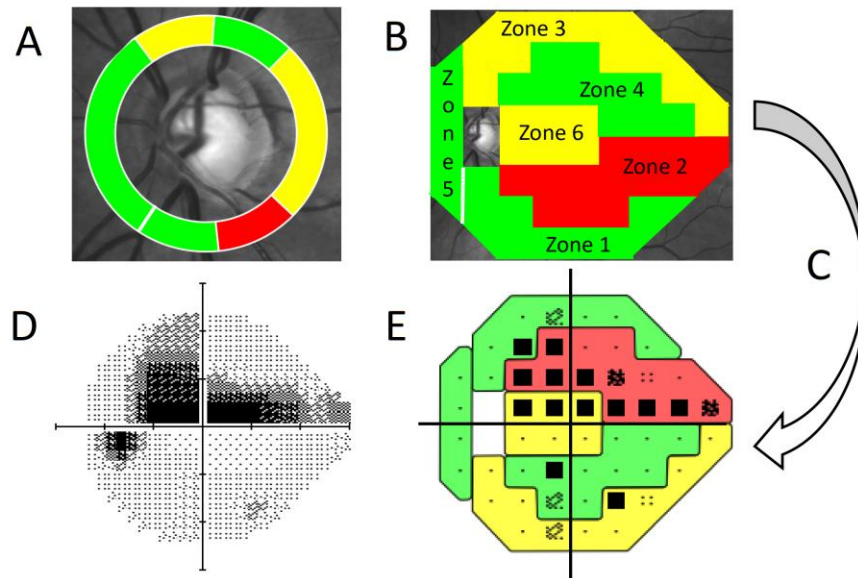
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502 Figure 1.



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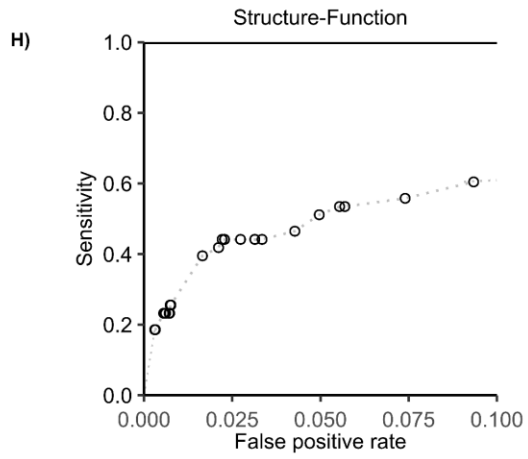
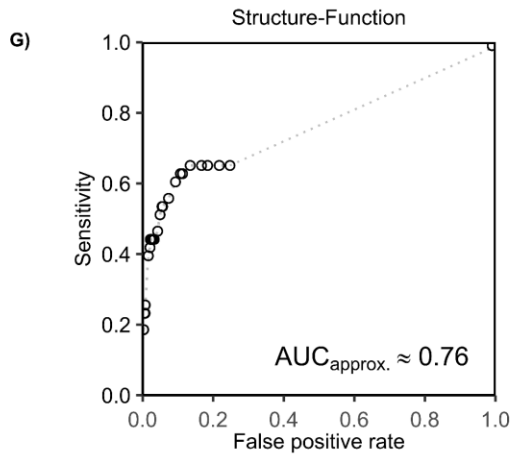
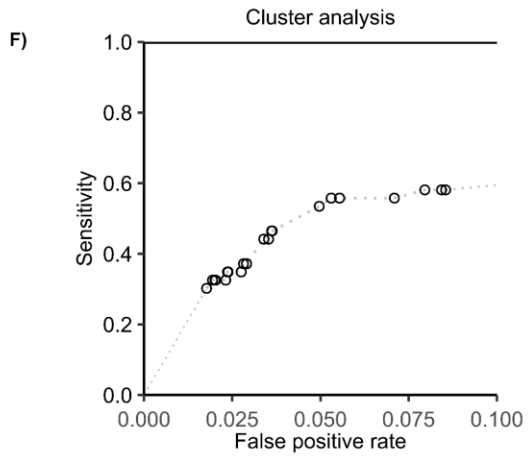
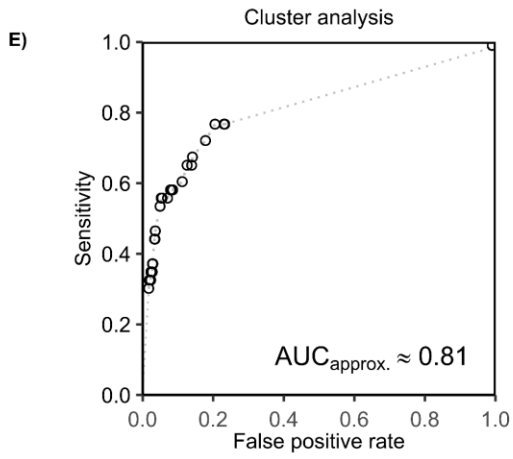
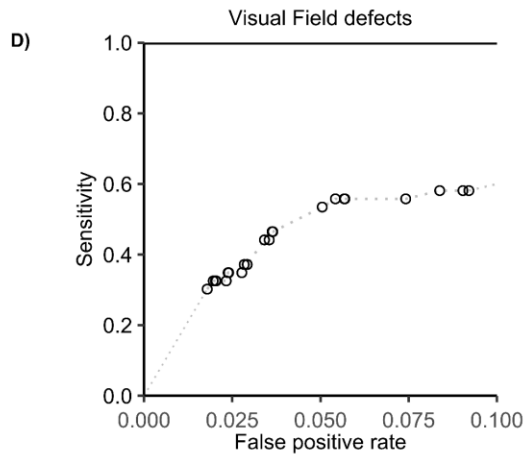
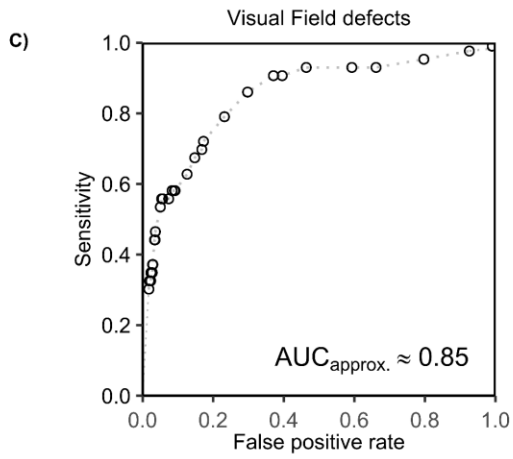
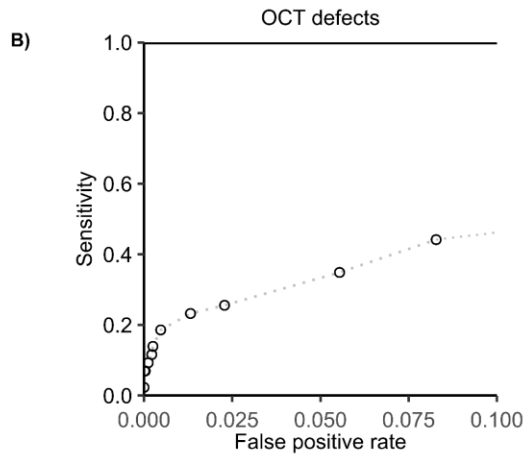
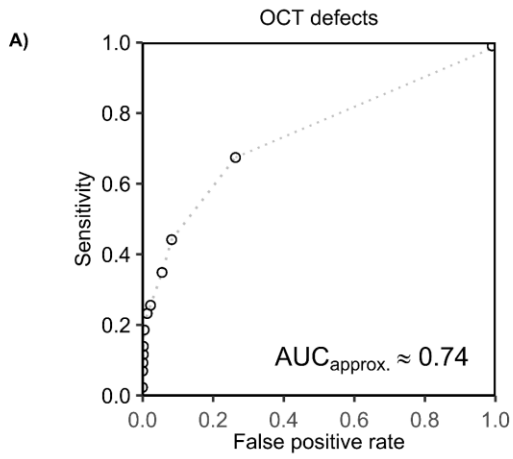
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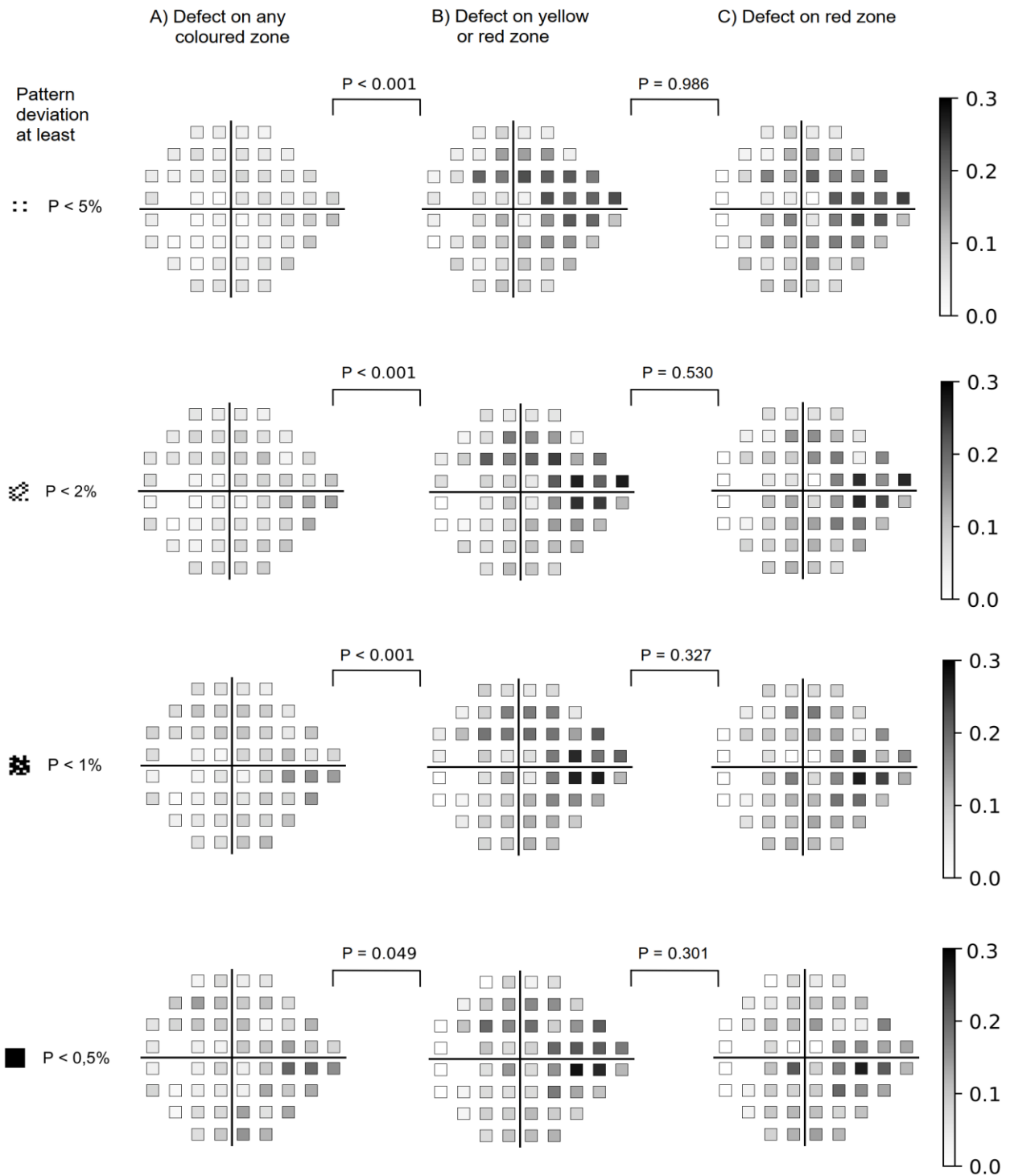
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517 Figure 2.





Northern Finland 1966 Birth Cohort Eye Study in 2012-2015 including 3070 subjects (6140 eyes)

Exclusion criteria:

- Incomplete glaucoma imaging (81 eyes)
- Missing pattern standard deviation data (95 eyes)

Final sample size 3001 subjects (5964 eyes) including 33 subjects with glaucoma (43 eyes)

A subject was included in the study if there was data from at least one eye

A) Defect on any colored zone

B) Defect on yellow or red zone

C) Defect on red zone

Pattern deviation at least

$P < 5\%$

	P < 0.001					P = 0.986																		
	5	5	4	3		4	8	5	4		5	9	5	5										
	5	7	5	6	5	4	4	4	14	14	15	4	3	3	12	13	10	7						
	4	3	6	6	8	7	6	7	3	6	20	18	23	21	21	18	0	8	17	13	21	17	15	19
	6	2	1	6	7	5	6	8	5	6	6	3	22	20	20	23	0	4	4	0	21	22	20	24
	4	1	3	1	5	8	9	11	4	7	12	4	15	21	20	10	0	12	17	5	18	23	21	11
	5	1	2	3	3	5	6	10	-1	6	10	10	13	15	15	10	0	6	15	12	16	18	16	11
	4	1	5	5	7	9	9	4	7	10	11	12	10	6	9	14	8	11						
	6	6	6	6	7	10	9	7	10	11	12	10	11	8	8									

$P < 2\%$

	P < 0.001					P = 0.530																		
	6	5	5	3		7	5	6	6		7	6	6	7										
	5	8	7	9	6	5	3	7	18	16	14	3	4	4	15	16	12	5						
	6	6	7	8	9	11	3	7	4	9	21	17	20	24	13	18	0	8	10	9	16	18	4	17
	7	3	3	8	8	9	7	10	7	8	8	5	21	26	21	27	0	5	6	0	17	25	16	26
	2	1	4	3	7	12	13	14	-1	5	11	5	15	25	24	12	0	11	13	7	15	26	23	11
	7	0	3	5	6	7	8	13	0	2	6	8	12	14	15	12	0	3	9	12	14	18	18	11
	4	3	6	8	9	10	8	7	9	10	11	12	8	9	11	13	10	14						
	7	7	8	9	7	11	10	8	9	12	10	7												

$P < 1\%$

	P < 0.001					P = 0.327																		
	7	6	6	4		9	7	5	7		8	6	7	8										
	7	10	9	10	9	5	4	8	17	18	18	5	4	5	17	18	13	7						
	8	7	7	10	10	9	5	10	5	11	19	18	20	19	14	21	0	9	10	10	13	13	4	16
	7	4	2	8	8	12	6	8	4	9	5	7	18	26	19	20	0	7	0	0	15	23	11	16
	3	3	6	2	9	15	16	15	0	7	12	5	18	26	27	12	0	11	17	7	17	26	24	13
	8	1	4	7	6	10	8	15	0	2	7	10	12	17	16	13	0	3	9	12	12	19	19	11
	4	5	6	9	8	11	5	9	11	13	13	10	6	10	11	14	13	12						
	6	7	10	12	8	9	12	11	11	13	11	10												

$P < 0,5\%$

	P = 0.049					P = 0.301																		
	3	7	4	5		0	8	3	7		0	7	5	6										
	10	14	11	10	11	7	4	10	14	17	16	8	5	5	9	11	11	11						
	6	8	10	10	12	3	8	12	0	11	20	17	19	9	15	21	0	6	11	11	15	5	4	17
	5	4	3	10	10	14	10	8	0	11	7	9	20	22	21	18	0	7	0	0	15	16	13	13
	4	4	8	4	10	20	20	16	0	7	15	7	15	28	26	12	0	11	21	9	17	26	21	12
	8	2	4	5	4	13	10	13	0	3	7	7	7	18	14	11	0	3	9	8	9	20	16	14
	2	7	8	14	6	13	2	9	9	12	9	8	3	10	12	11	8	11						
	7	10	15	12	7	10	11	13	8	13	14	12												

Supplementary Figure 2. Defect localization analysis combining visual field defective points with a pattern deviation at $p < 5\%$, $< 2\%$, $< 1\%$ or $< 0.5\%$ and a simultaneous OCT finding. Correlation coefficients ($\times 100$) are presented in numeric values on a 0 to 100 scale. Corresponding results are displayed on a grayscale in Figure 3. The data of the right eyes were evaluated as a mirror image to present all of the data consistently as left eyes in this analysis.

Supplementary Table 1. The Finnish evidence-based guideline for the diagnosis of glaucoma. The bolded values refer to the ‘at least 2 out of 3’ rule. Modified with permission from Tuulonen et al. (2015).

Glaucomatous	Normal	Diagnosis	Note
RNFL ONH VF	-	Glaucoma	Diagnosis conclusive
RNFL VF	ONH	Glaucoma	Apparently small disc
RNFL ONH	VF	Glaucoma	Preperimetric glaucoma
ONH VF	RNFL	Glaucoma ¹	Exclusion of neurological cause
RNFL	ONH VF	Possible glaucoma	Consider follow-up
ONH	RNFL VF	Possible glaucoma	Consider follow-up
VF	RNFL ONH	Possible glaucoma	Consider controlling SAP

¹Rare finding in glaucoma if RNFL image is of good quality.

Supplementary Table 2. Demographics of the NFBC study population. Comparisons were performed with Mann-Whitney U-test (age, MD and PSD) and Chi-square test (gender).

	Glaucomatous	Non-glaucomatous	Total	p
Persons (eyes)	33 (43)	2968 (5921)	3001 (5964)	
Age (SD)	47.2 (0.8)	47.0 (0.9)	47.0 (0.9)	0.449
Gender: Female (%)	16 (48%)	1634 (55%)	1650 (55%)	0.451
IOP mmHg (median, range)	16 (9 to 35)	15 (7 to 24)	15 (7 to 35)	0.037
VF MD dB (median, range)	-2.0 (-22.2 to 0.9)	0.2 (-32.8 to 9.0)	0.2 (-32.8 to 9.0)	<0.001
VF PSD dB (median, range)	2.7 (1.2 to 14.1)	1.5 (0.8 to 15.9)	1.5 (0.8 to 15.9)	<0.001
RNFL thickness μm (mean, SD)				
Average (360 degrees)	78.8 (15.6)	90.9 (9.3)	90.8 (9.4)	<0.001
Inferonasal (zone 1)	90.2 (28.4)	103.2 (24.0)	103.2 (24.0)	<0.001
Inferotemporal (zone 2)	109.6 (32.5)	137.1 (19.1)	136.9 (19.3)	<0.001
Superonasal (zone 3)	80.0 (27.8)	100.9 (22.6)	100.8 (18.9)	<0.001
Superotemporal, (zone 4)	100.1 (33.8)	127.7 (18.6)	127.5 (11.7)	<0.001
Nasal (zone 5)	67.6 (13.8)	73.6 (11.7)	73.6 (11.7)	0.007
Temporal (zone 6)	63.6 (17.0)	65.1 (12.2)	65.1 (12.2)	0.559

Supplementary Table 3. The options of the observed OCT abnormalities in worsening order presented on the ROC plot (Figure 2A,B). In the different options, a given defect or worse, was detected.

Order of the step	Number of defective zones					
	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	≤ yellow					
2	red					
3	red	≤ yellow				
4	red	red				
5	red	red	≤ yellow			
6	red	red	red			
7	red	red	red	≤ yellow		
8	red	red	red	red		
9	red	red	red	red	≤ yellow	
10	red	red	red	red	red	
11	red	red	red	red	red	≤ yellow
12	red	red	red	red	red	red

Supplementary Table 5. The included structure-function combinations with an OCT abnormality and VF defects in worsening order presented on the ROC plot (Figure 2G,H). In the different options, a given defect or worse, was detected.

Order of the step	Number of defective zones ¹	Number of defective points in the visual field ²										
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1	1	5										
2	1	5	5									
3	1	5	2									
4	1	5	2	5								
5	1	5	2	2								
6	1	5	2	1								
7	1	5	2	1	5							
8	1	5	2	1	2							
9	1	5	2	1	1							
10	1	5	2	1	0.5							
11	1	5	2	1	0.5	5						
12	1	5	2	1	0.5	2						
13	1	5	2	1	0.5	1						
14	1	5	2	1	0.5	0.5						
15	1	5	2	1	0.5	0.5	5					
16	1	5	2	1	0.5	0.5	2					
17	1	5	2	1	0.5	0.5	1					
18	1	5	2	1	0.5	0.5	0.5					
19	1	5	2	1	0.5	0.5	0.5	5				
20	1	5	2	1	0.5	0.5	0.5	2				
21	1	5	2	1	0.5	0.5	0.5	1				
22	1	5	2	1	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5				
23	2	5	2	1	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5				
24	2	5	2	1	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	5			
25	2	5	2	1	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	2			
26	2	5	2	1	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	1			
27	2	5	2	1	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5			
28	2	5	2	1	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	5		
29	2	5	2	1	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	2		
30	2	5	2	1	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	1		
31	2	5	2	1	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5		
32	2	5	2	1	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	5	
33	2	5	2	1	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	2	
34	2	5	2	1	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	1	
35	2	5	2	1	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	
36	3	5	2	1	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	
37	3	5	2	1	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	5
38	3	5	2	1	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	5
39	3	5	2	1	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	2
40	3	5	2	1	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	1
41	3	5	2	1	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5

¹Yellow or red zones. ² On the pattern deviation plot, each abnormal test point is depressed below this level or worse.