

# Glaucoma or Masquerader?

*Clinical Pearls and Systematic Approach for  
Accurate Diagnosis*

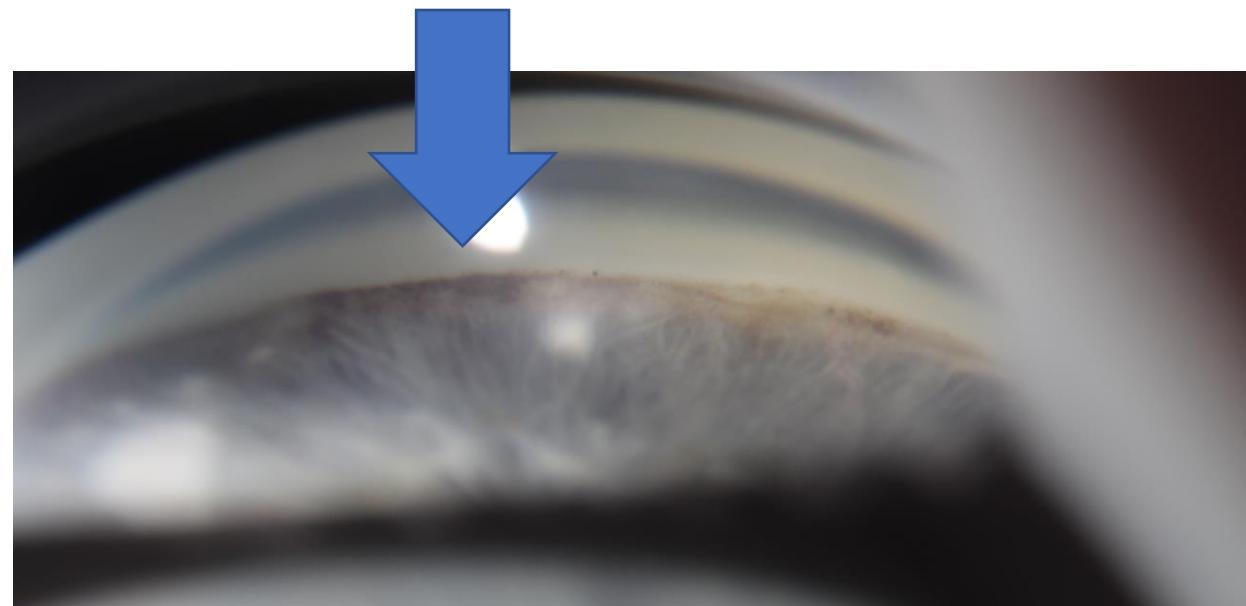
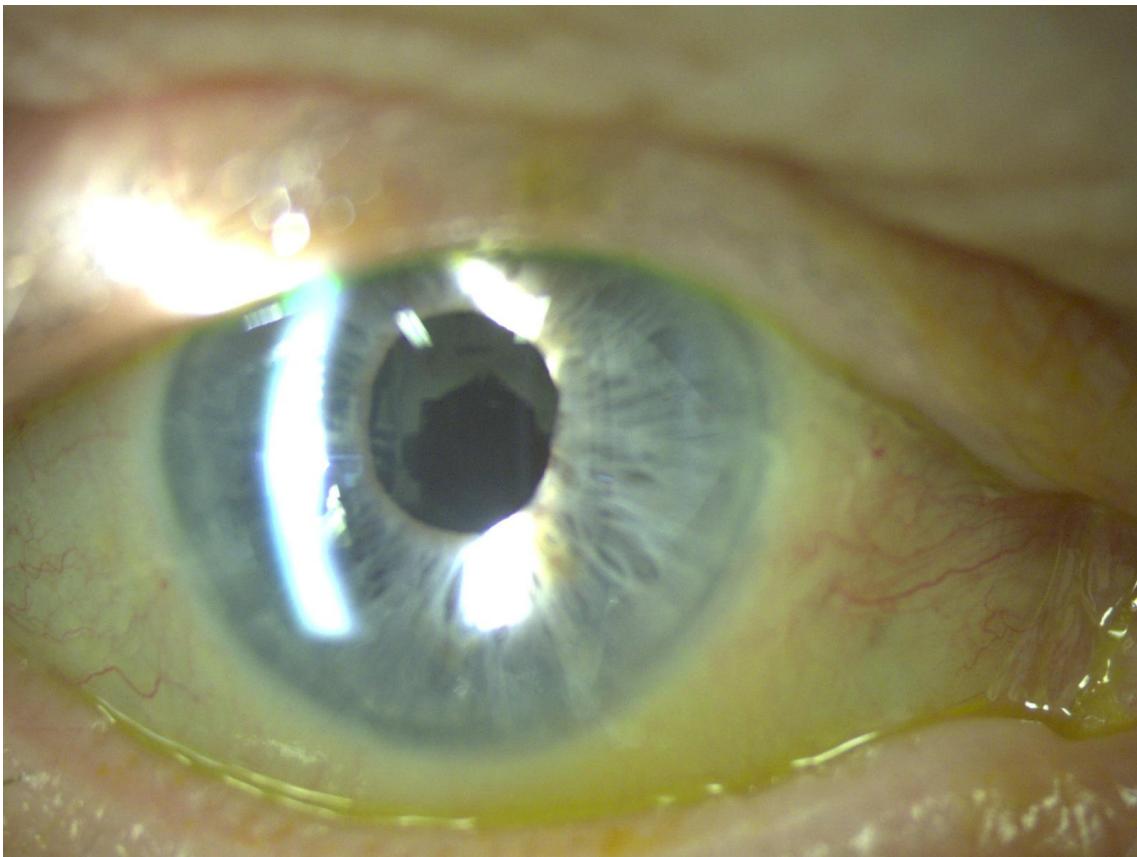


# What we'll cover

- Real Life Scenarios
- Common masqueraders
- Key diagnostic features of each
- Tips and tricks

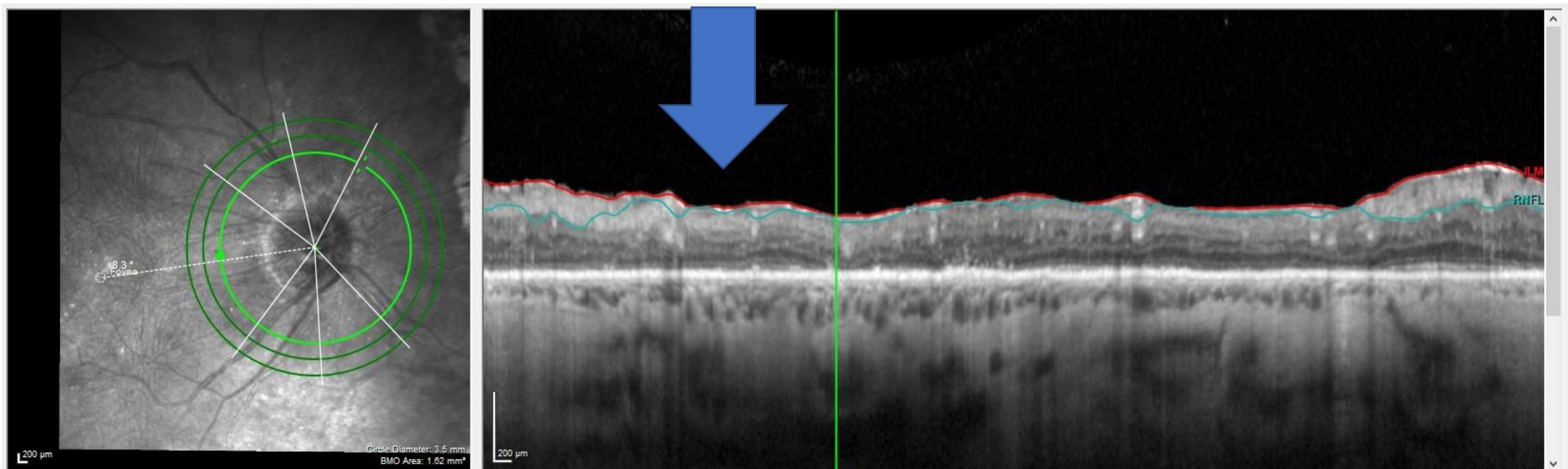


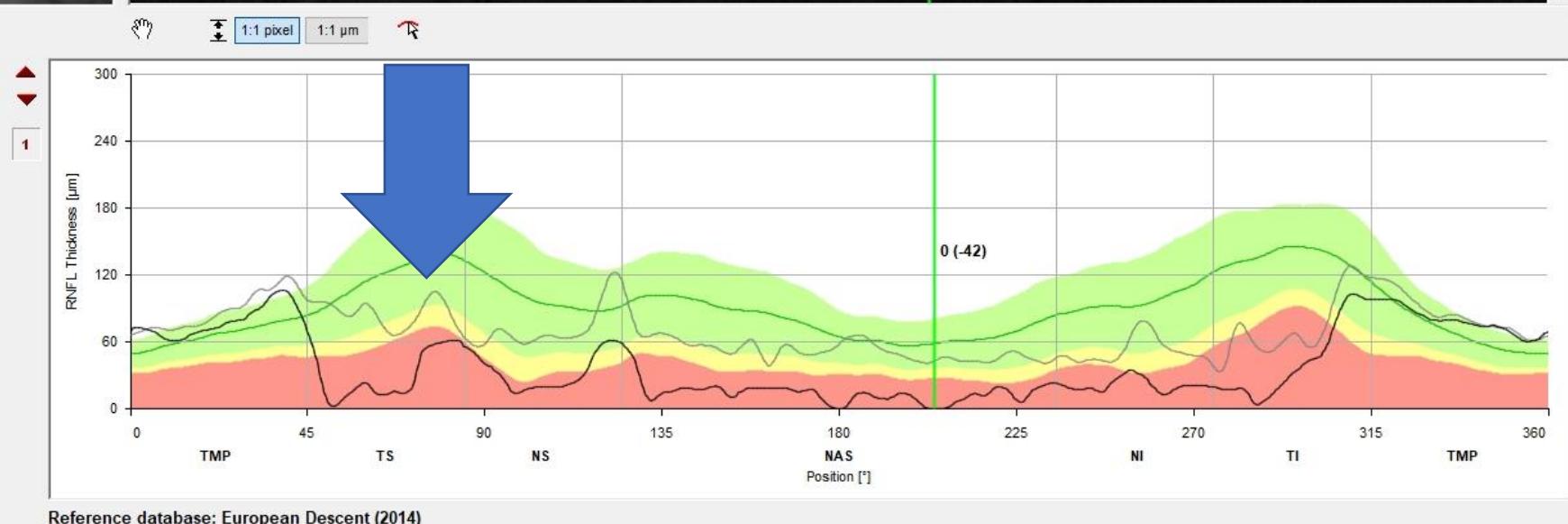
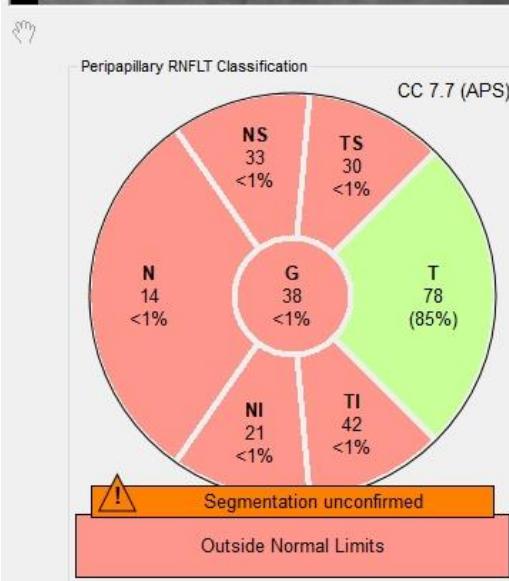
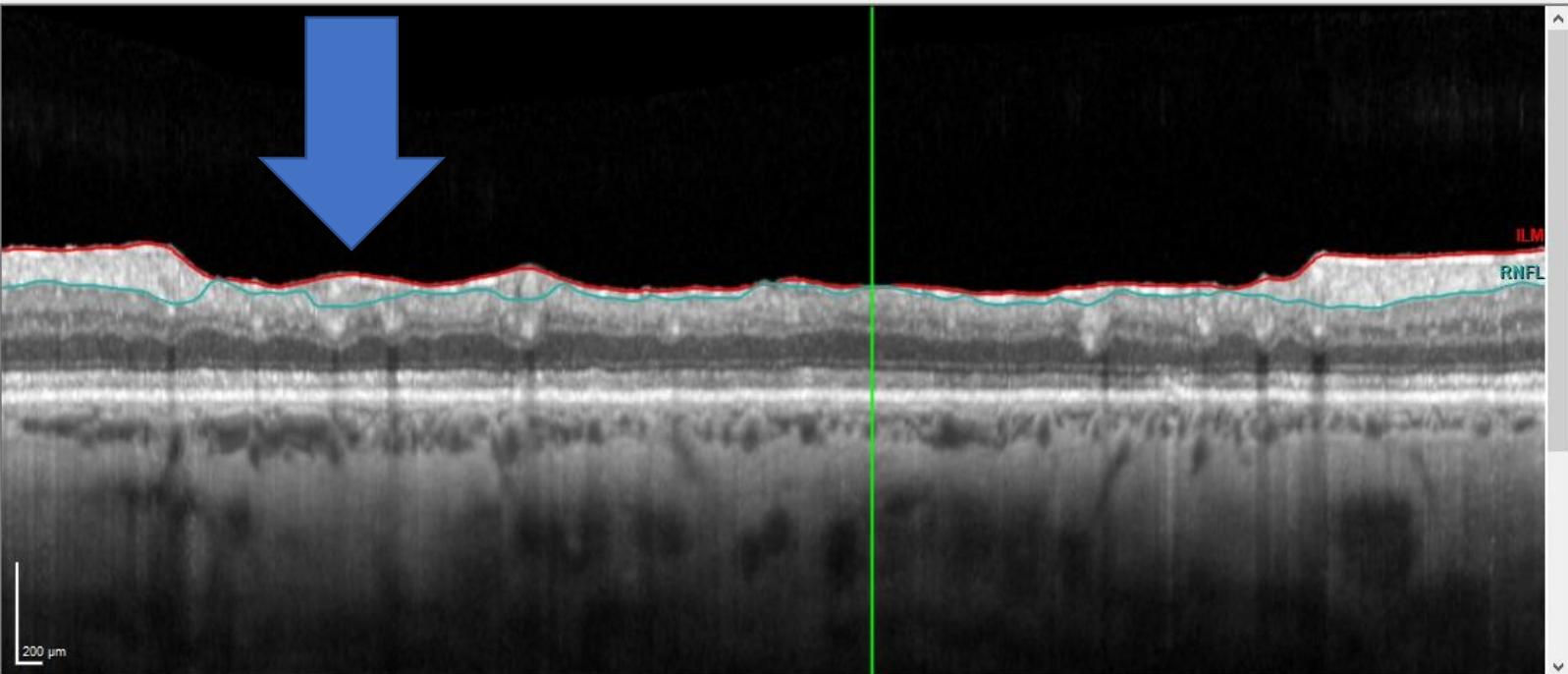
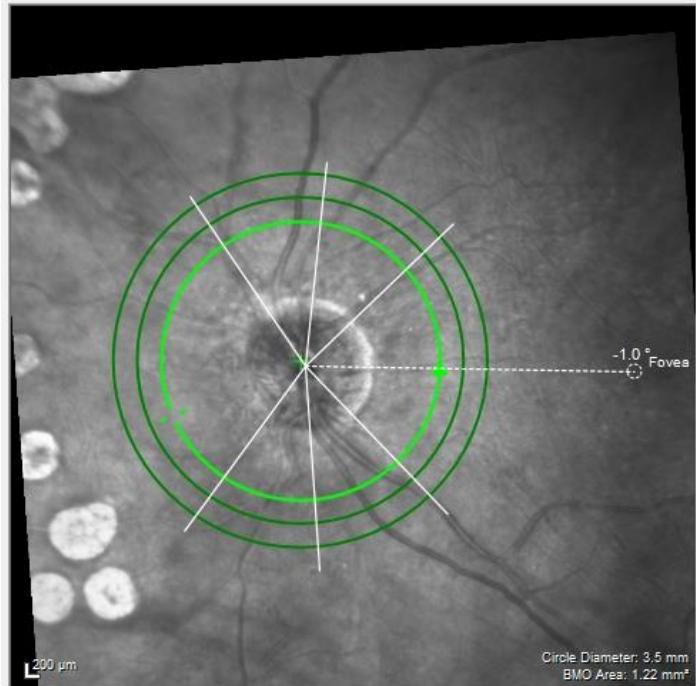
Case 1. Mrs KF- 73yo female known diabetic



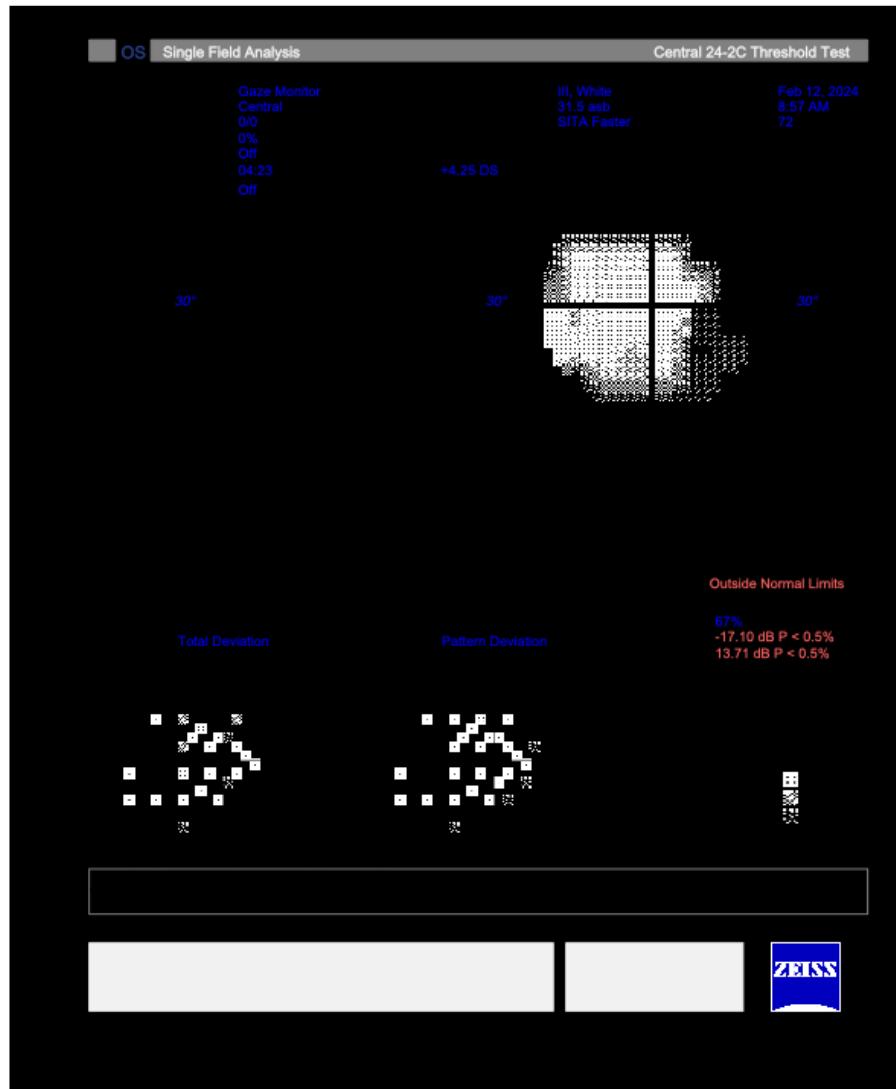
# POHx

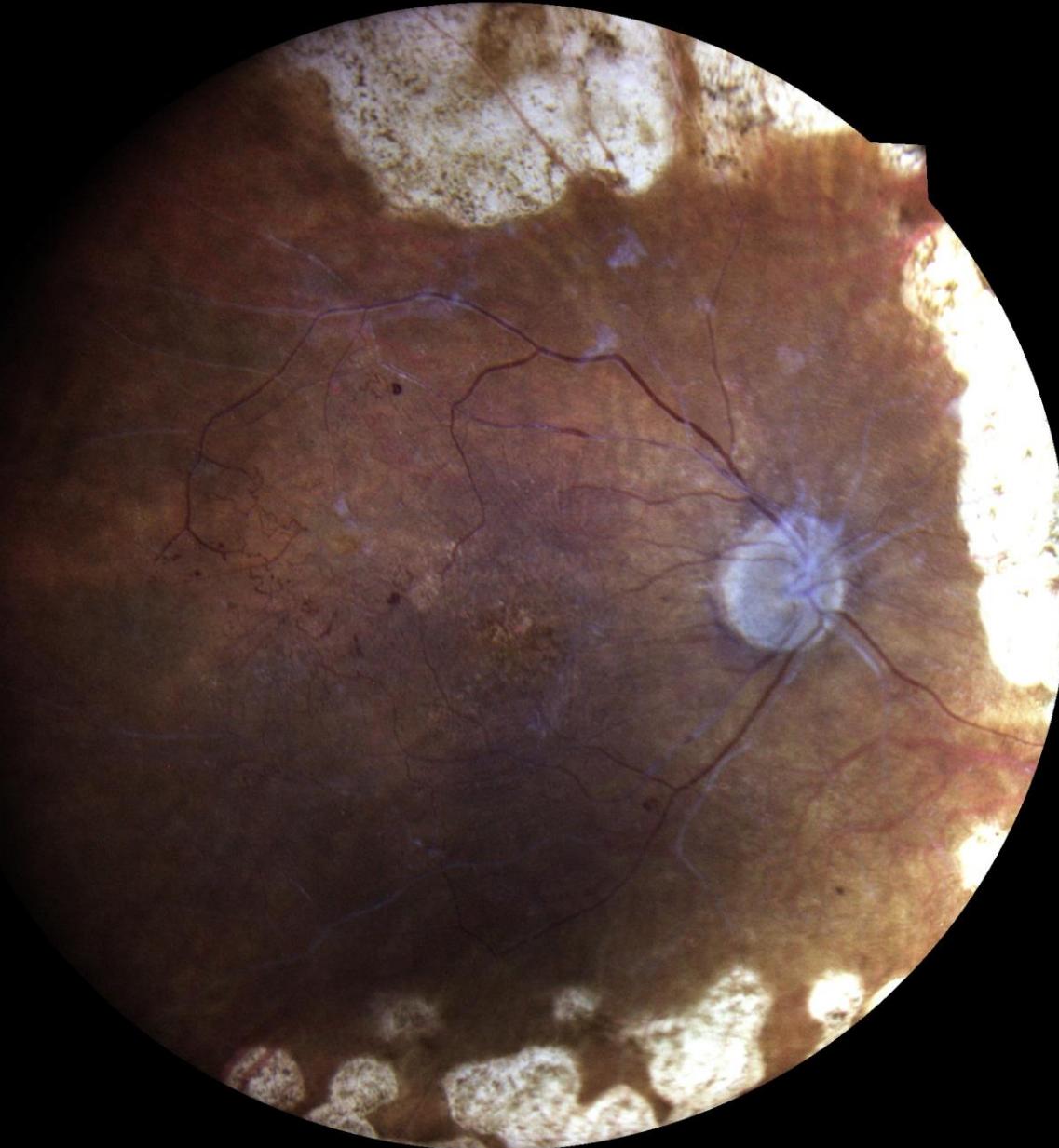
- Bilateral vitrectomy for PDR and tractional RD OU
- Left fine NVI with rubeosis
- VA R 6/60 NIPH L 6/12 NIPH
- IOP 16/18

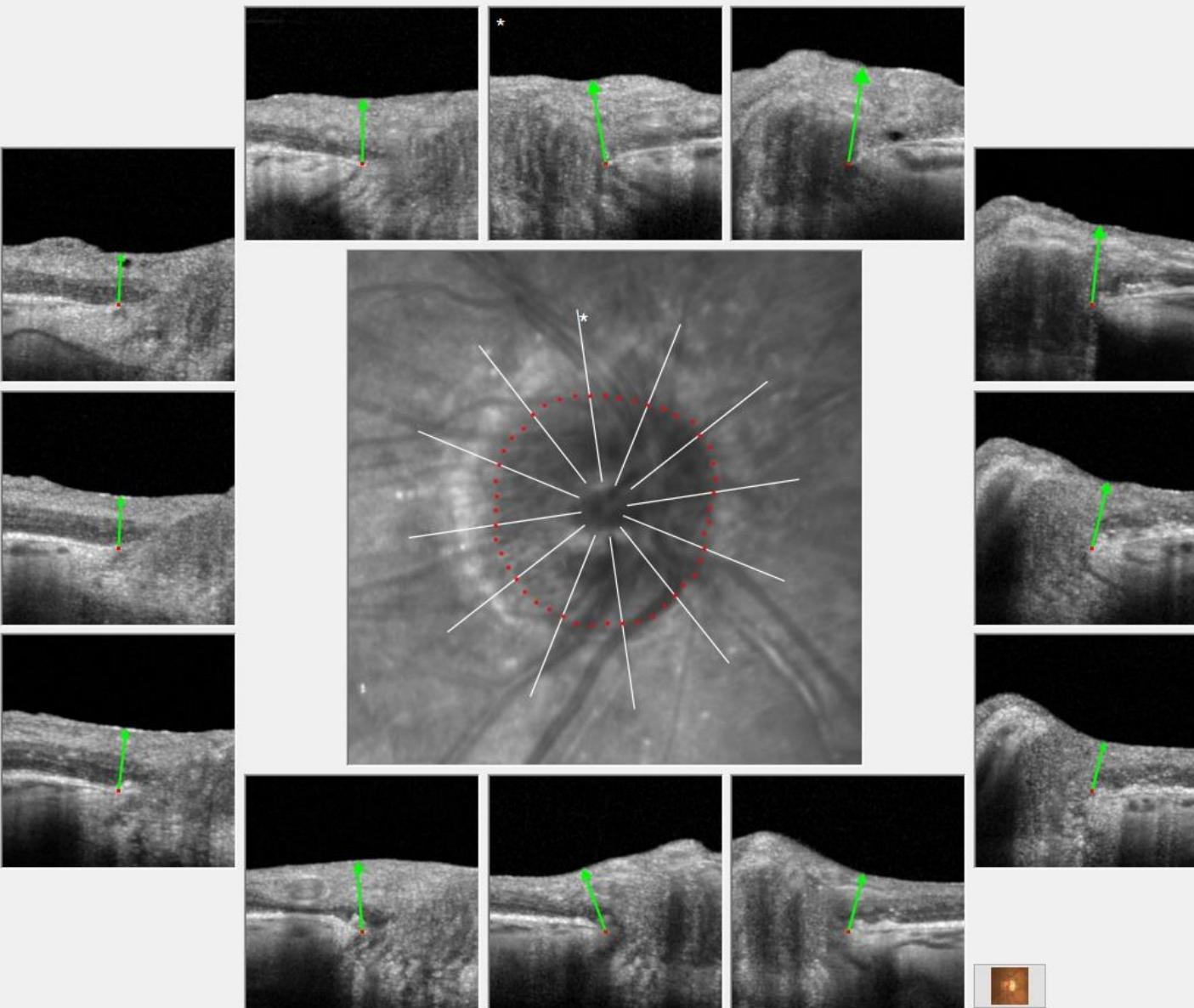




# Is this glaucoma?

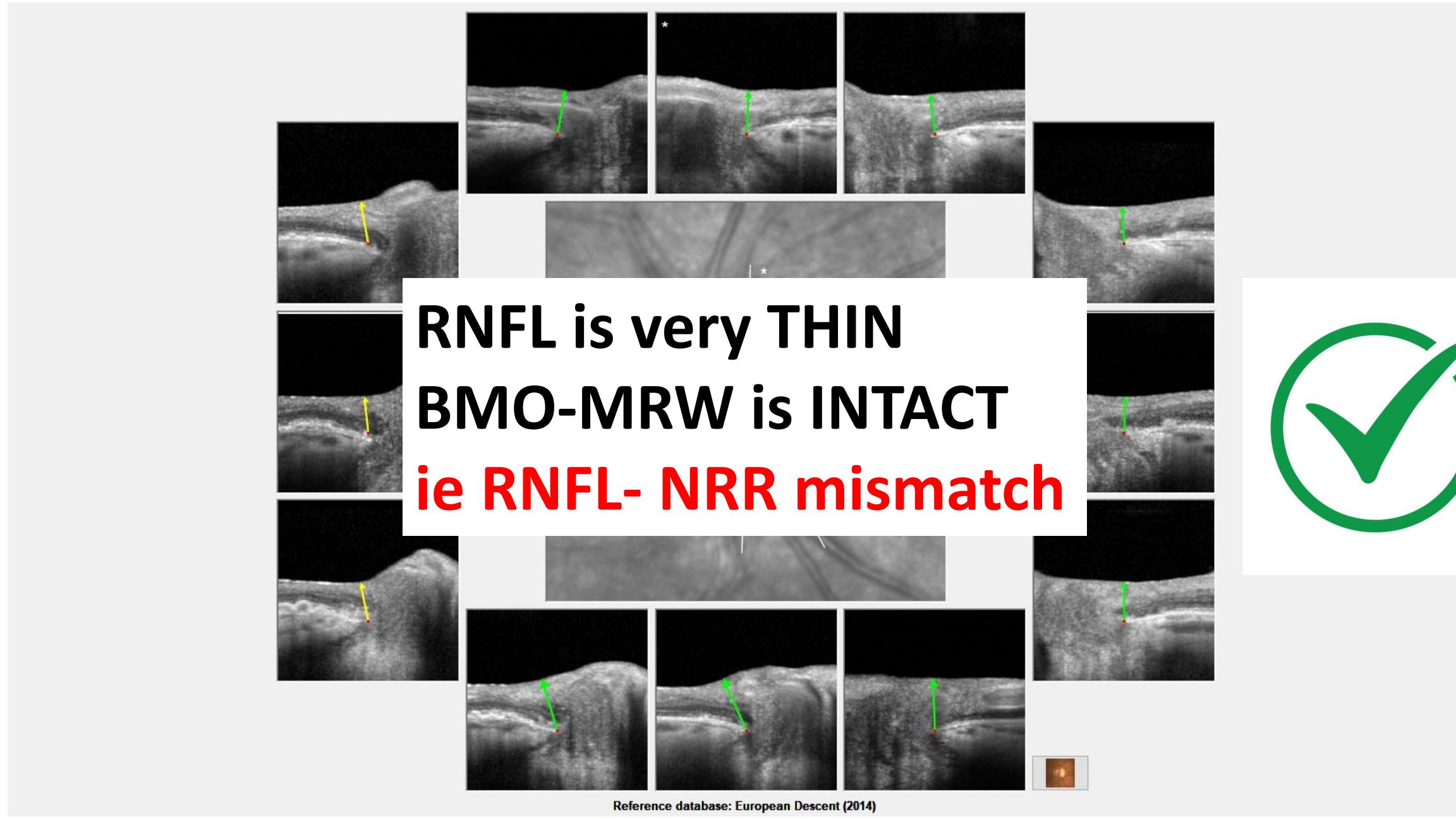






Reference database: European Descent (2014)

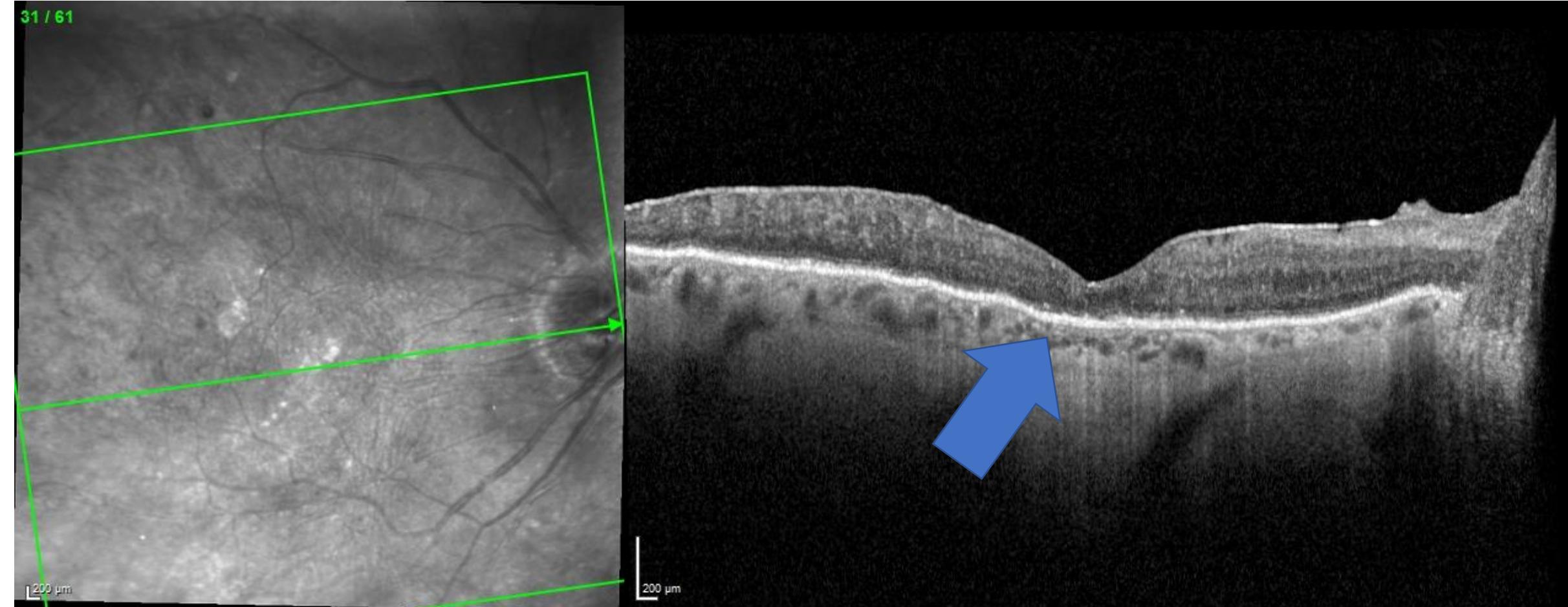




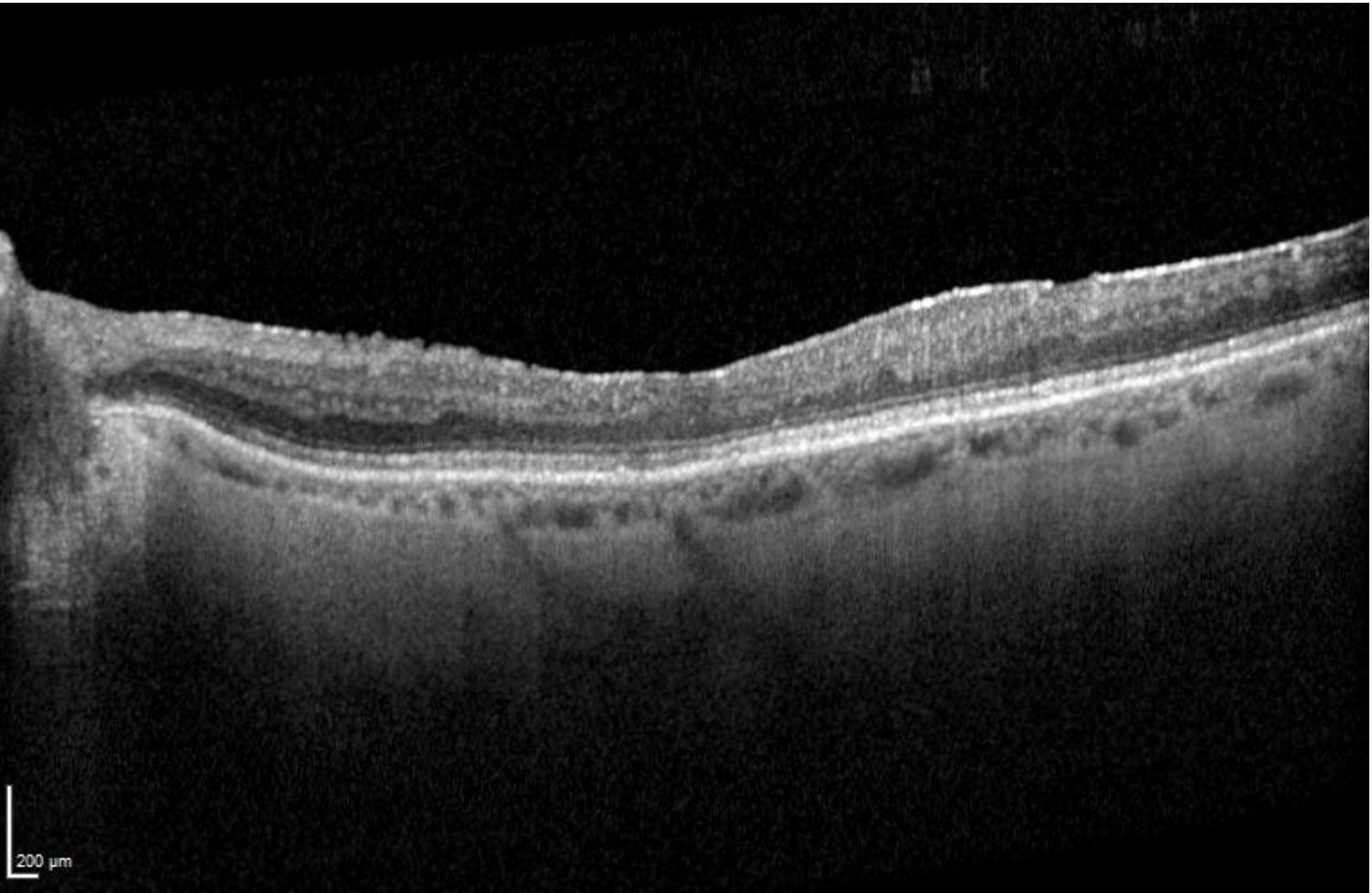
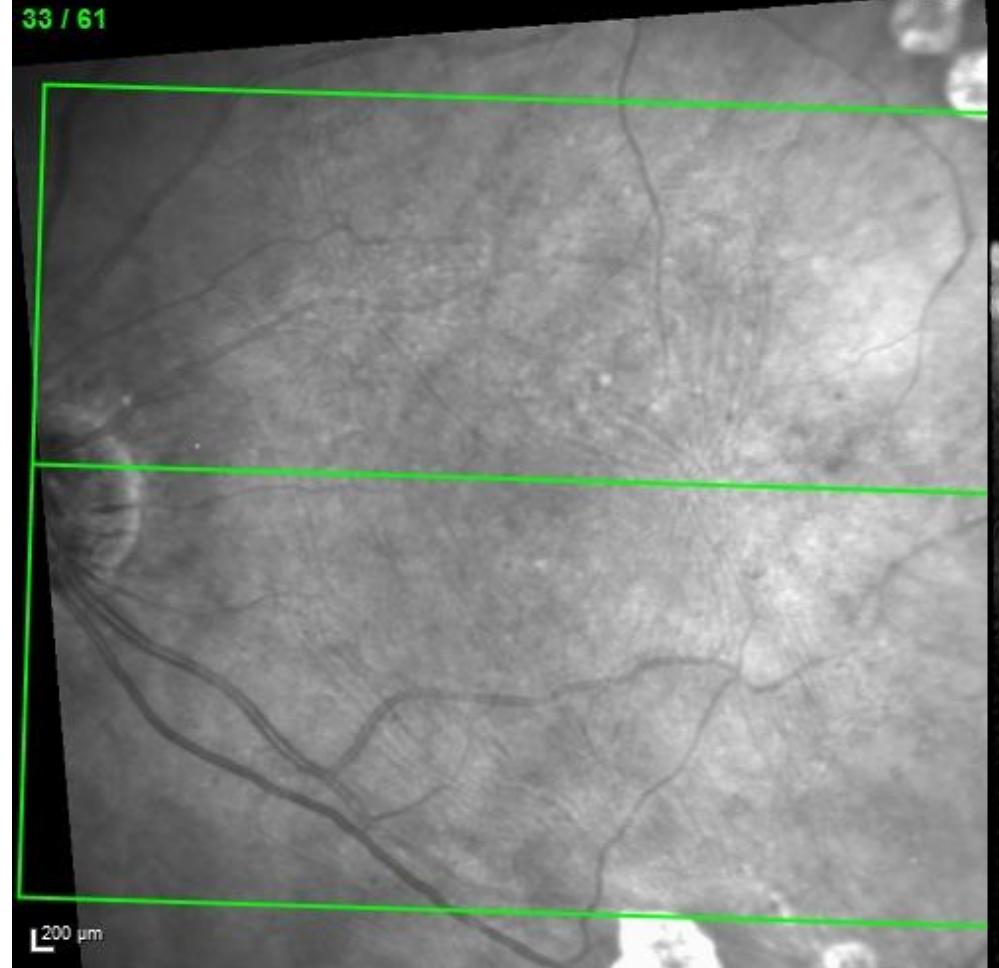
**RNFL is very THIN  
BMO-MRW is INTACT  
ie RNFL- NRR mismatch**



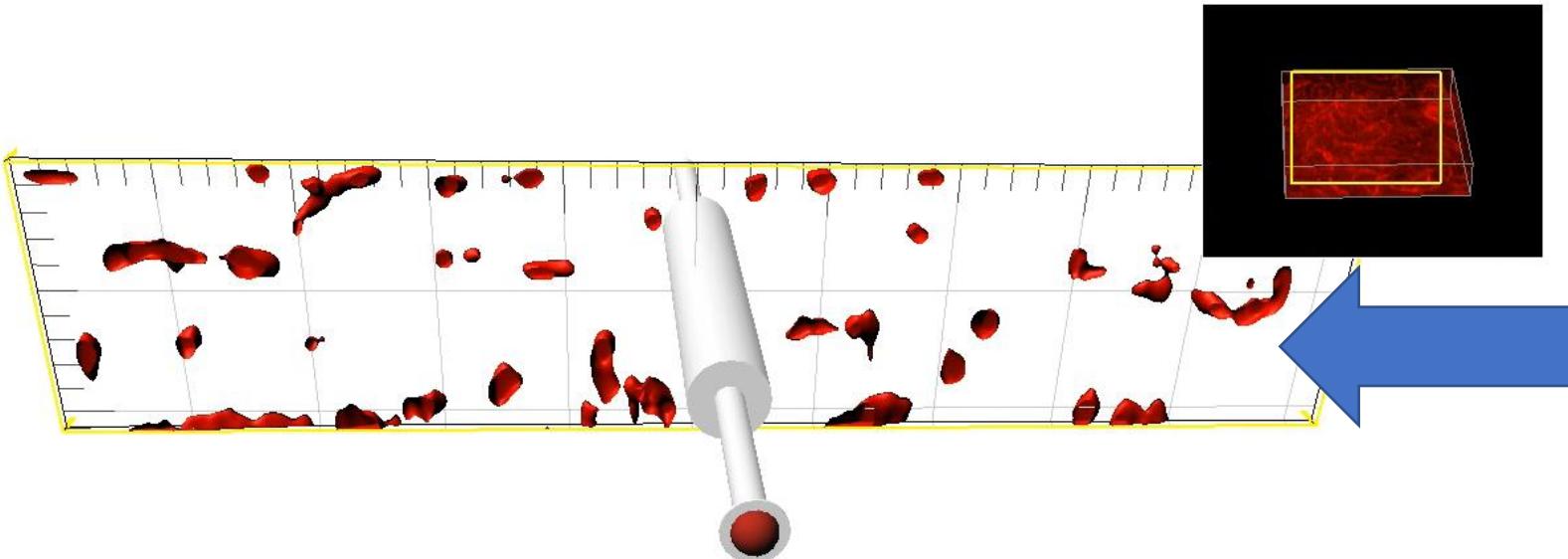
31 / 61



33 / 61

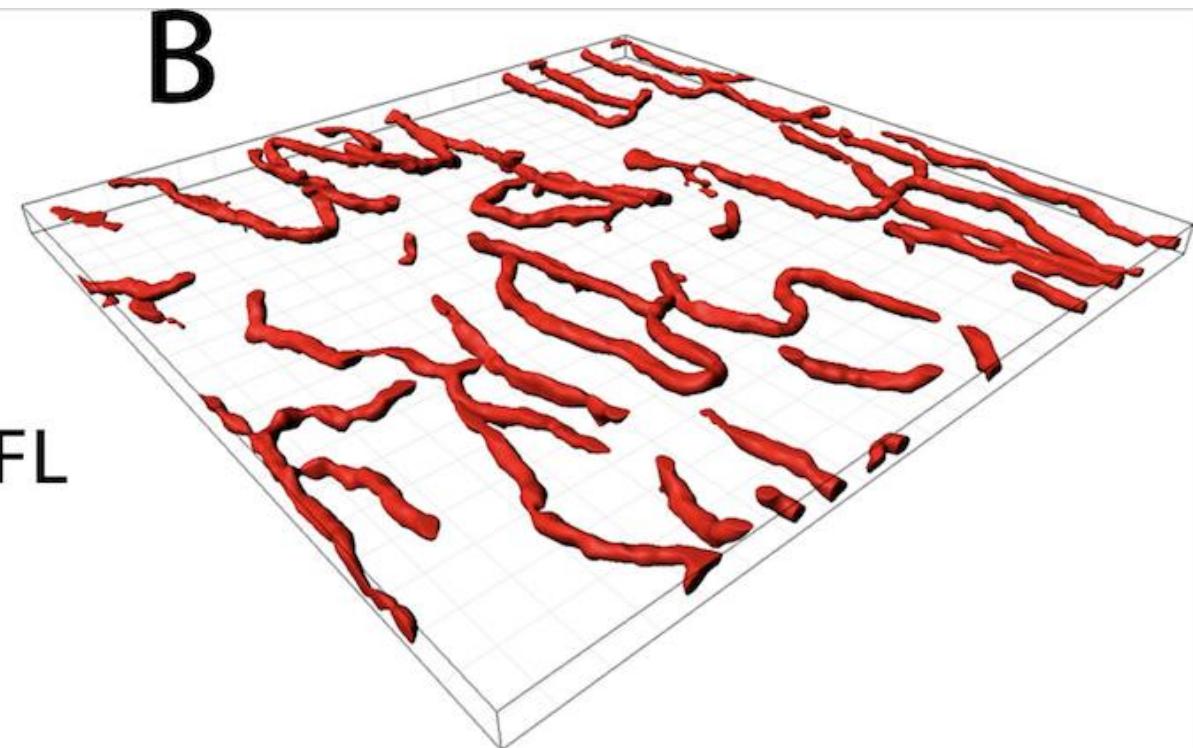
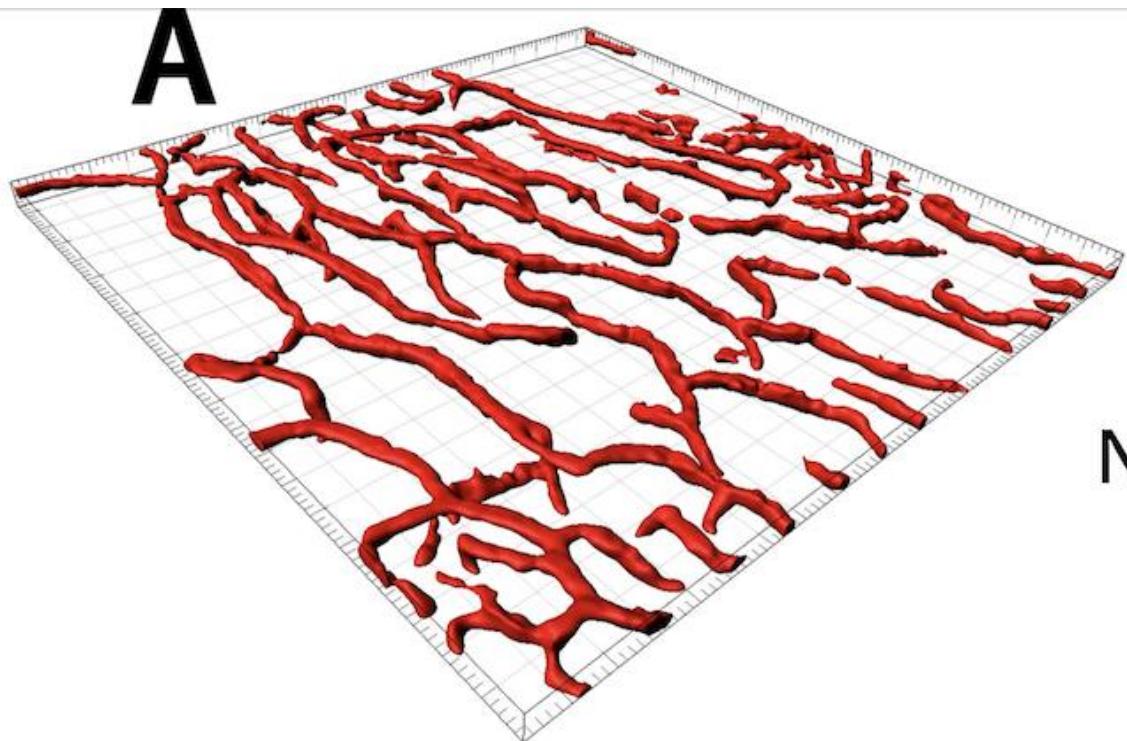


Why is there nerve thinning in diabetics?



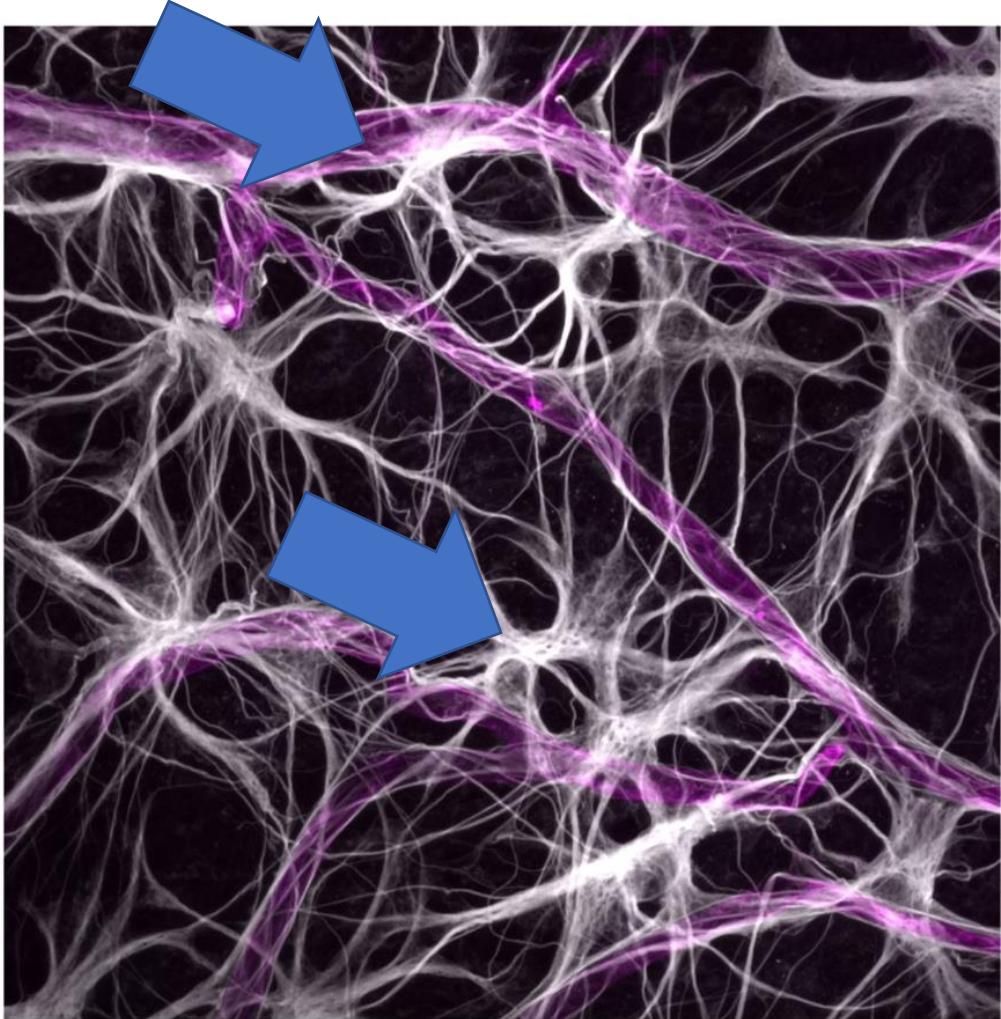
50  $\mu$ m

Chan G, Balaratnasingam C, Yu PK, Morgan WH, McAllister IL, Cringle SJ, Yu DY. Quantitative morphometry of perifoveal capillary networks in the human retina. Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci. 2012 Aug 13;53(9):5502-14.

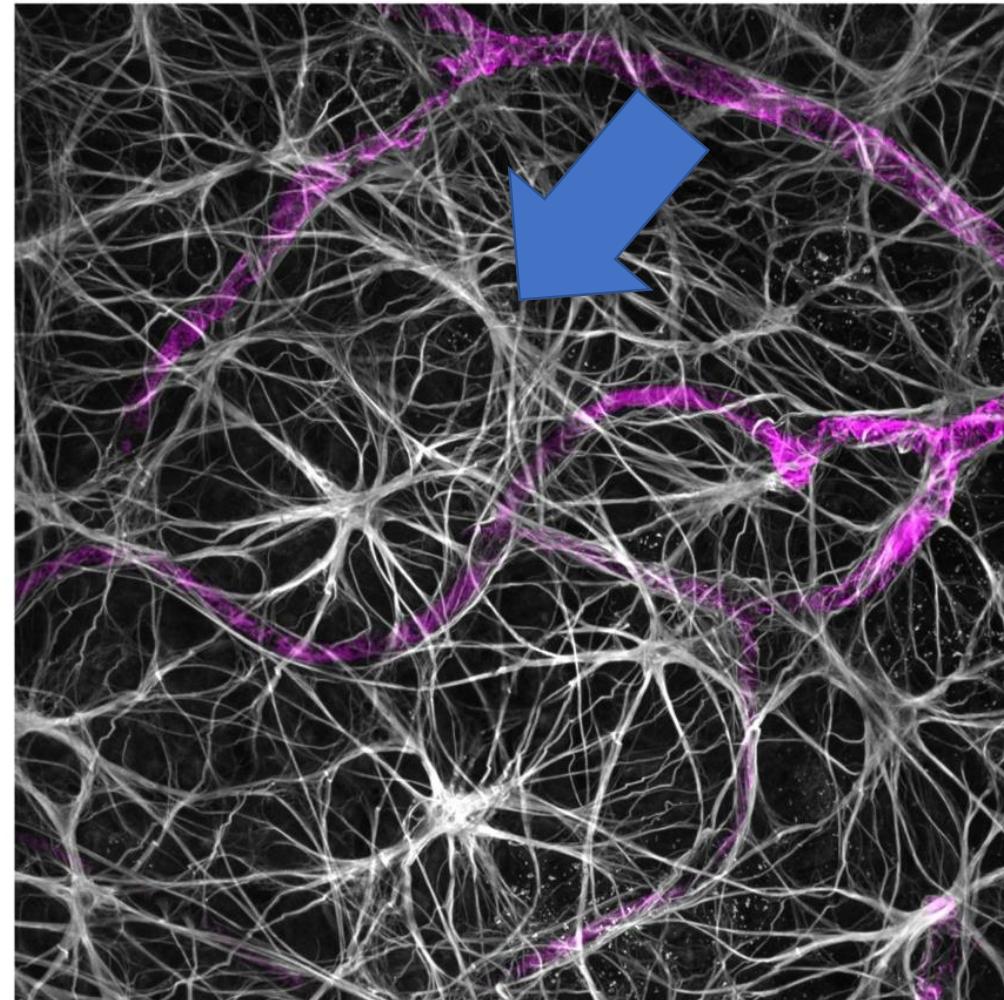


NFL

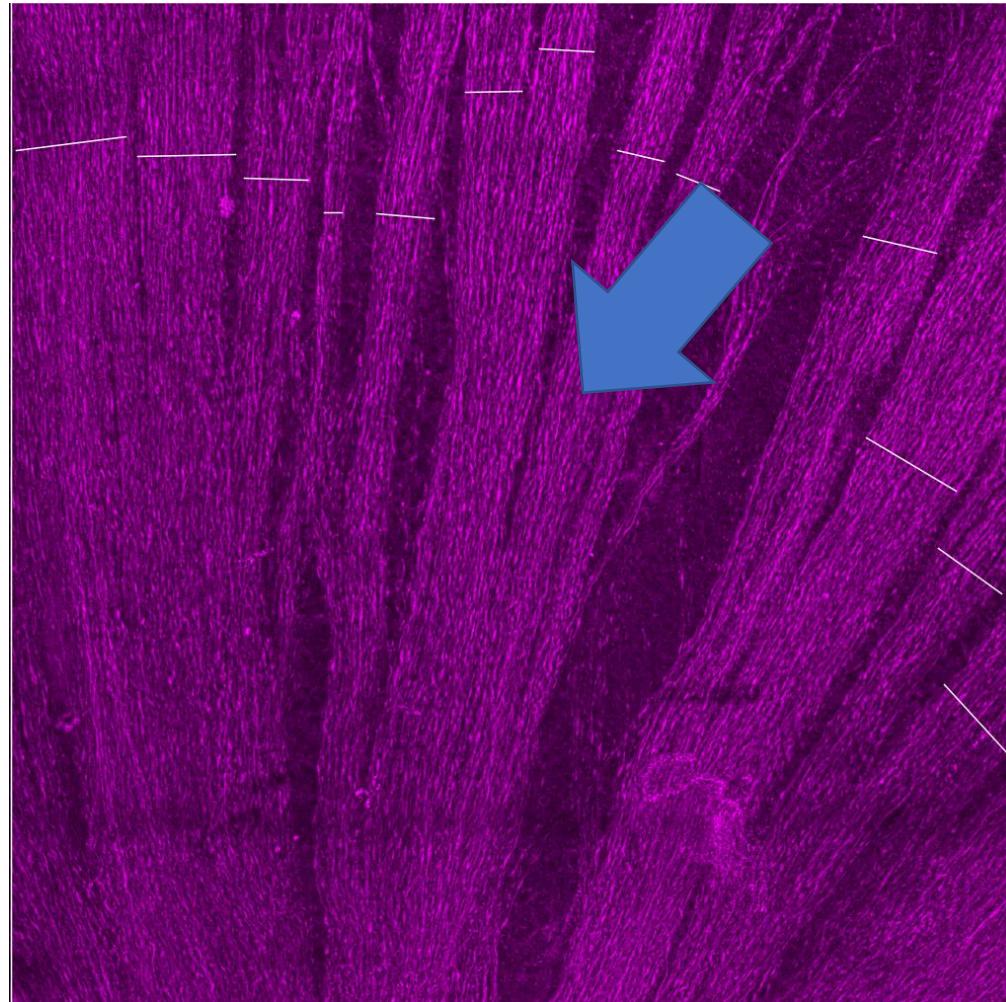
CONTROL



STREPTOZOTOCIN-  
induced diabetes (rats)



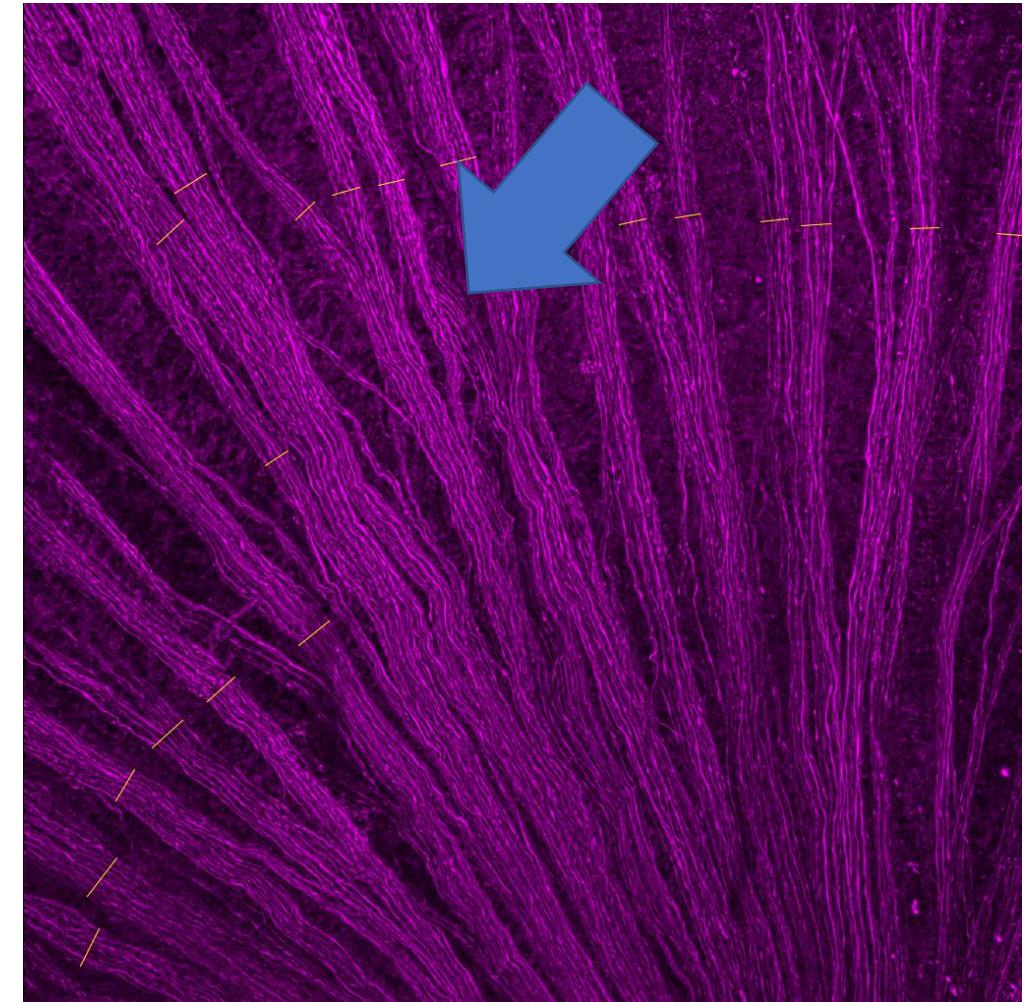
**Control**



**Control**

Total bundles: 13  
Mean: 43.41 microns  
Median: 39.47 microns  
Area coverage: 83.5%

**Neurofilament-M**



**Diabetic**

**Diabetic\_sp115**

Total bundles: 20  
Mean: 20.49 microns  
Median: 20.17 microns  
Area coverage: 68.77%

# Clinical Pearls : Diabetes Mellitus

- Diabetes causes RNFL thinning independent of a glaucomatous disease process
- **RNFL vs. Neuroretinal Rim Mismatch**
  - Think of non-glaucomatous causes.
- **Neurodegeneration & Microvascular Damage**
  - Retinal neurodegeneration may occur **before visible microvascular changes.**



## Case 2. Mr RT - 77yo male

Mr X presents to our practice for his review of progressing cataracts. His wife has had her cataracts removed from you this year and has had a pleasant experience so he would like to be seen by you as well. He wears SVD normally and reads with SVN.

His BCVA is R: 6/7.5-1 L: 6/6-2 OU: 6/6-1  
IOPs R: 25mmHg L: 25mmHg at 8:48am. CCT R 549 L 573  
His pupils were responsive, no RAPD.

I performed a VF for baseline due to high pressures and flagged OCTs, since it was the first time the results were not the most reliable but there were significant defects in the RE. I've advised Mr X i will send all the details through to you for a workup.

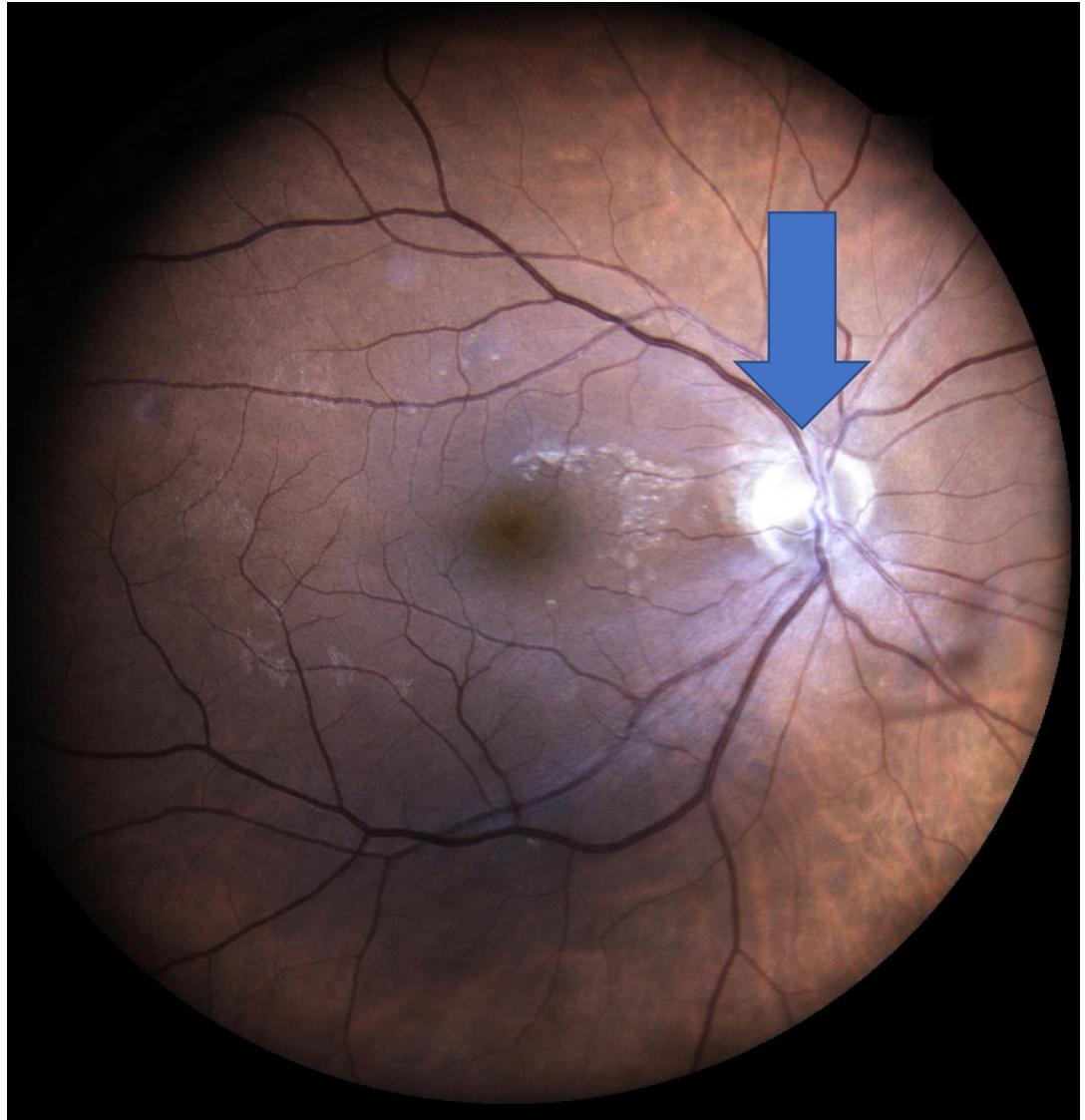
# POHx

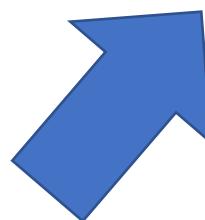
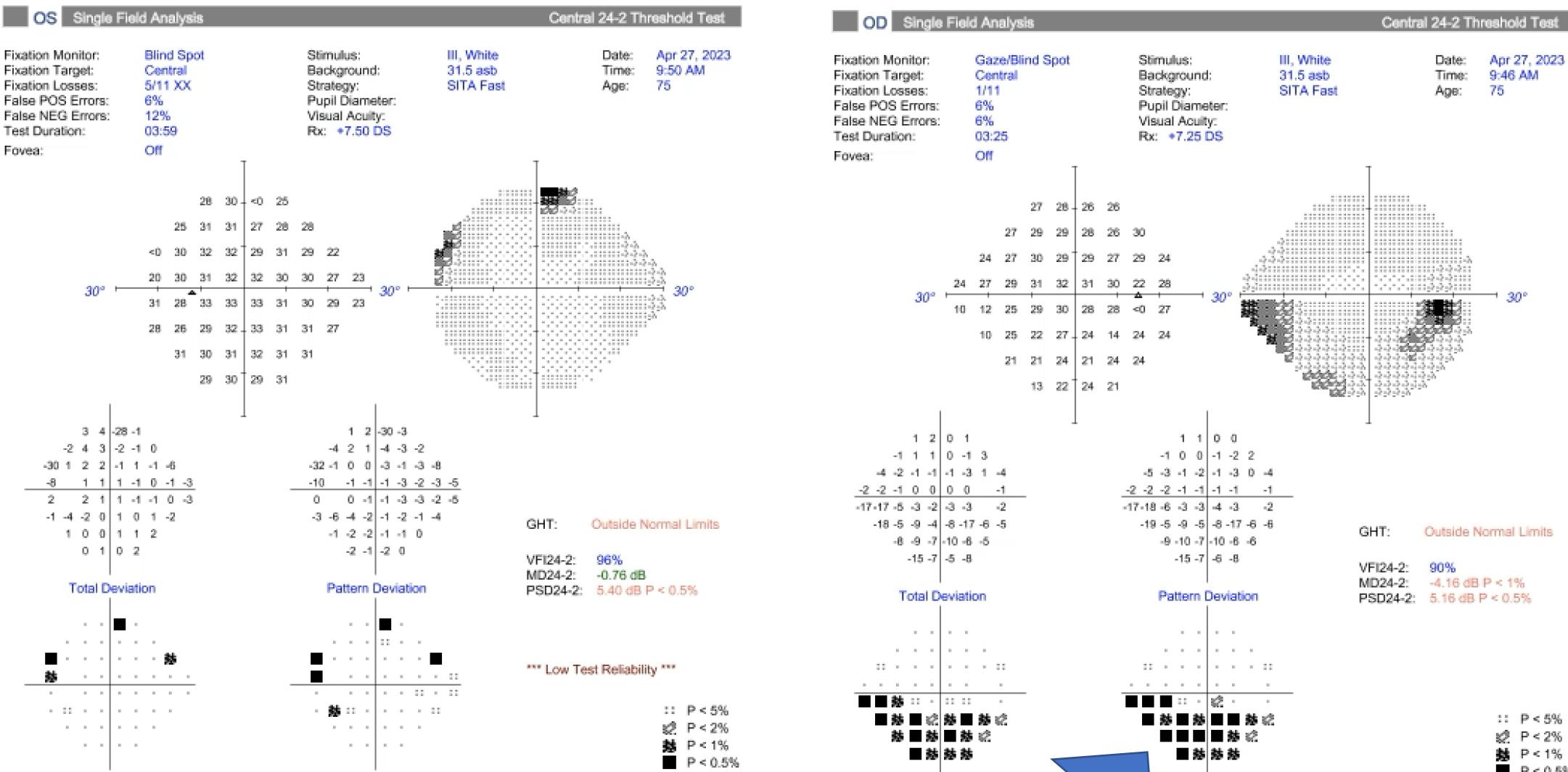
- Nil

# PMHx

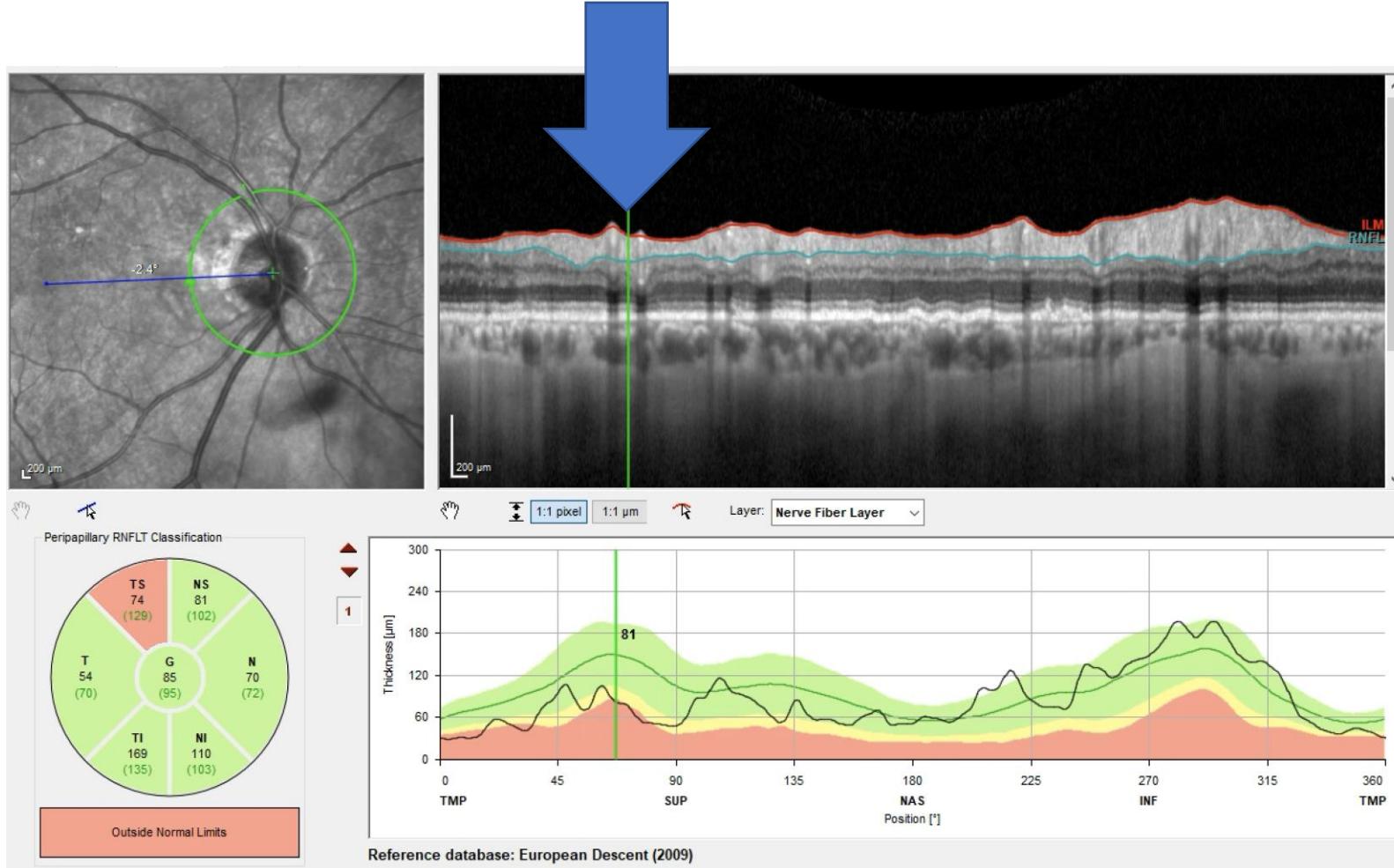
- Hypertension
- Anxiety
- Previous smoker

Family history of maternal glaucoma

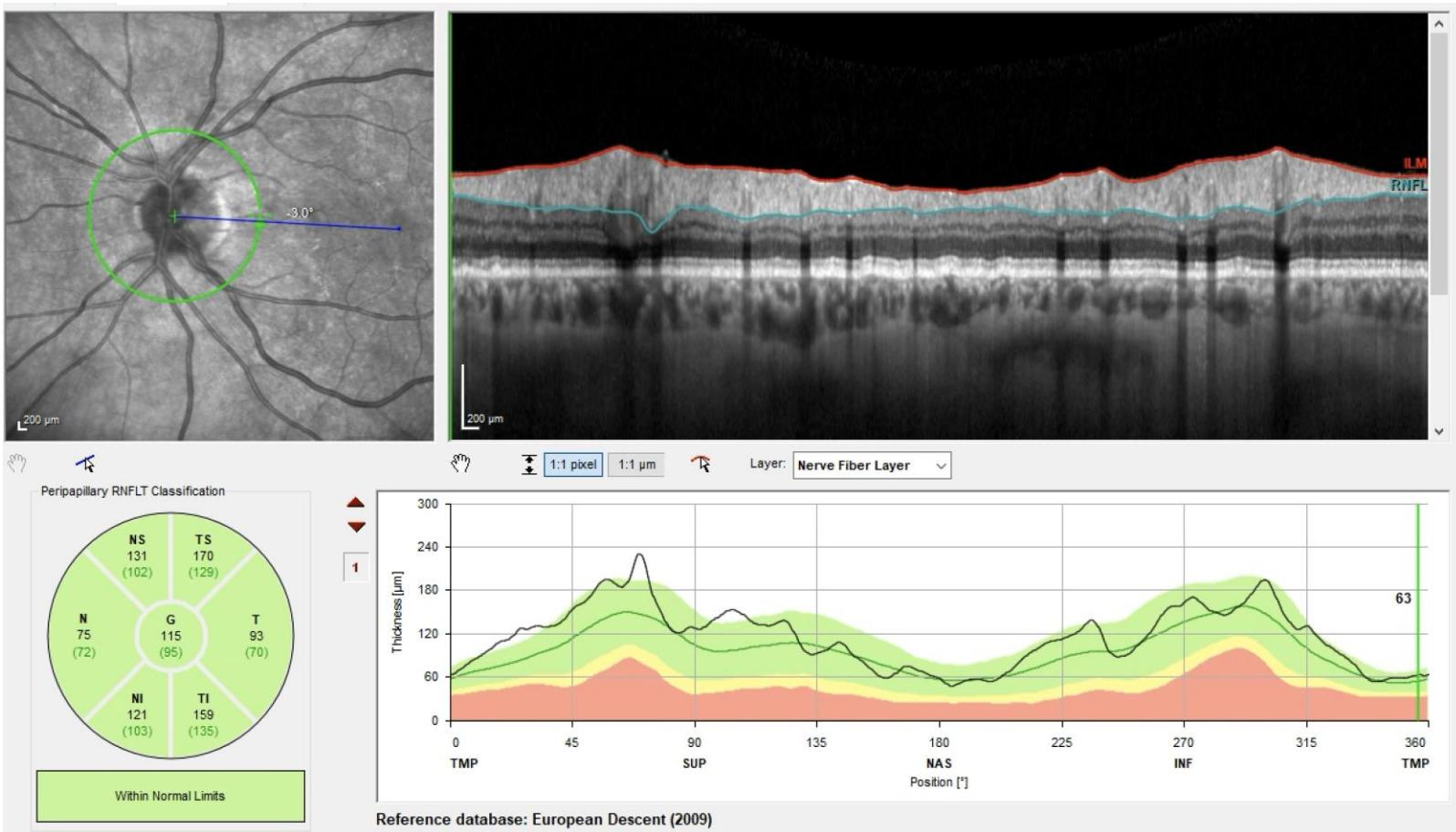




# RE IOP 19

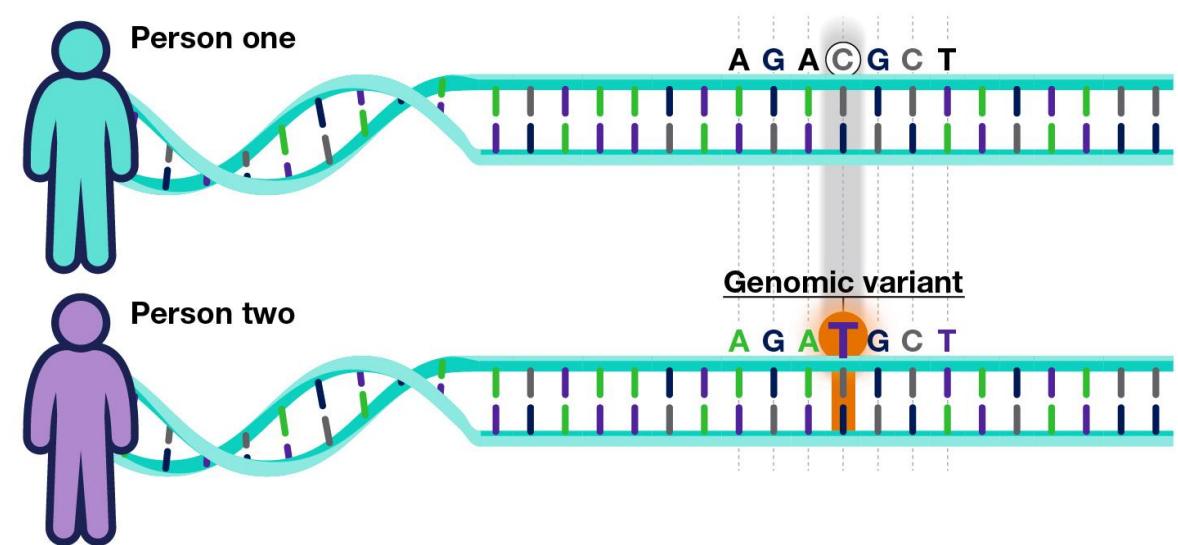


# LE IOP 17



# Uneventful cataract surgery OU

## Should I be worried about glaucoma in my right eye?

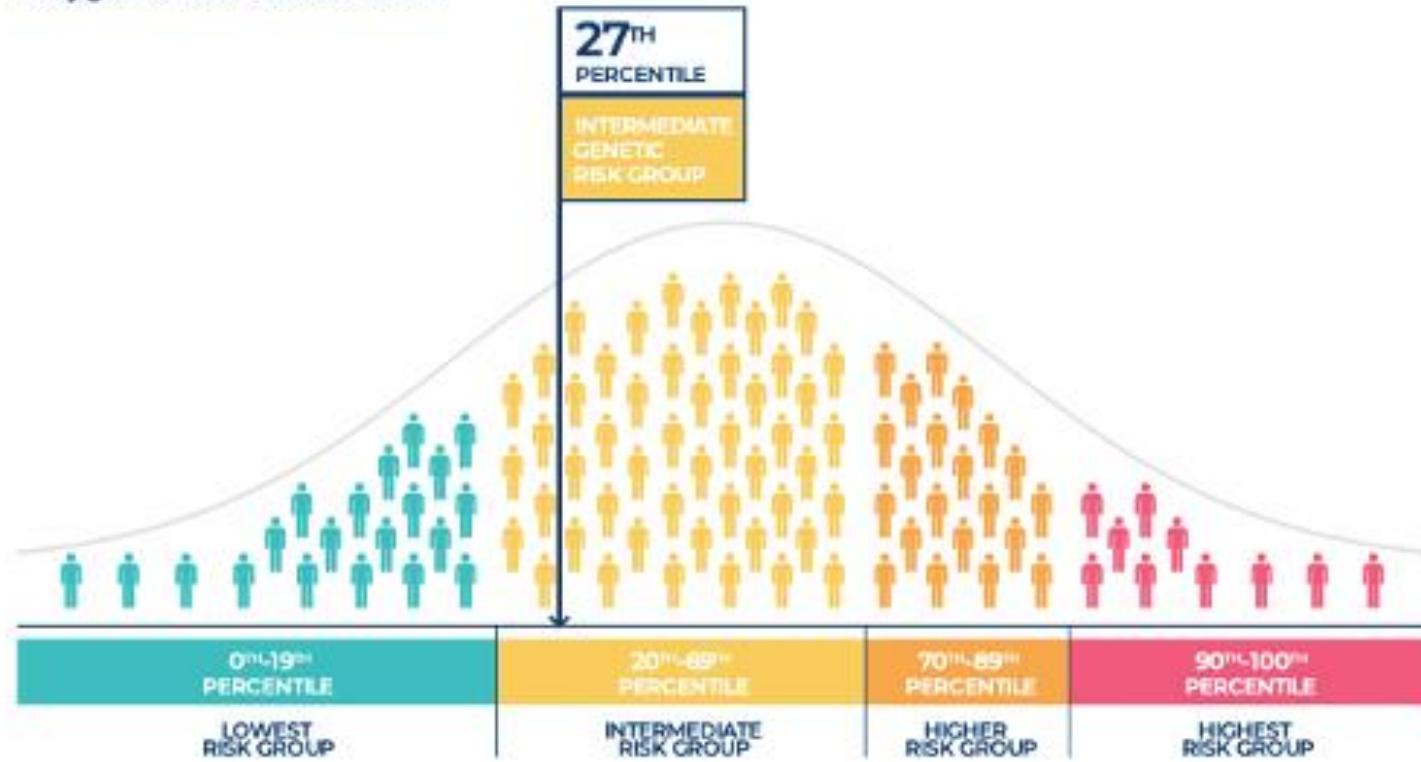


# Polygenic risk scoring

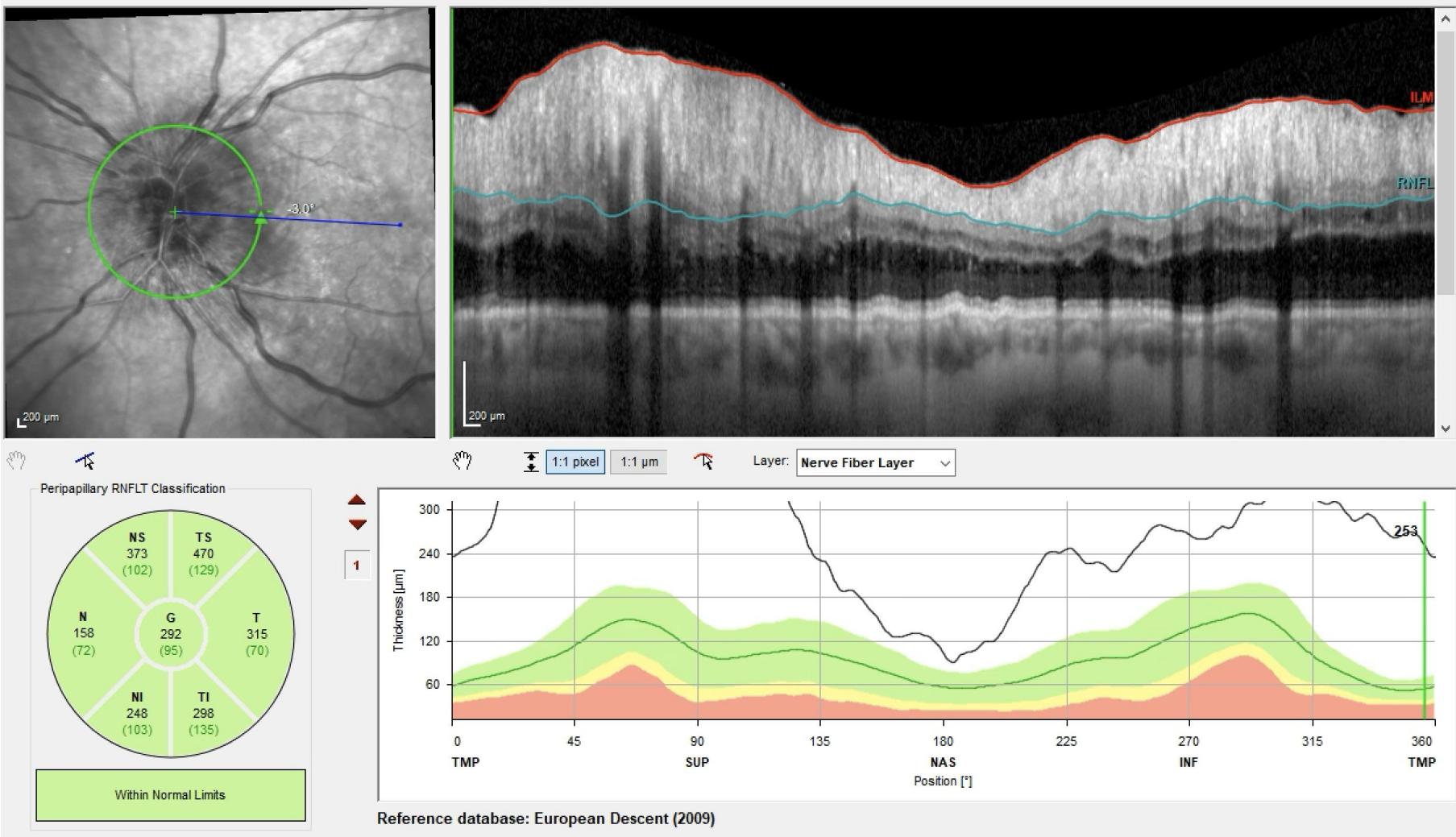
X is in the Lowest Glaucoma suspect/OHT Risk Group:

- Polygenic risk score in general population: 27th percentile (Intermediate Genetic Risk Group)
- Polygenic risk score in Glaucoma suspect/OHT population: 17th percentile (Lowest Glaucoma)

Polygenic Risk Score Result



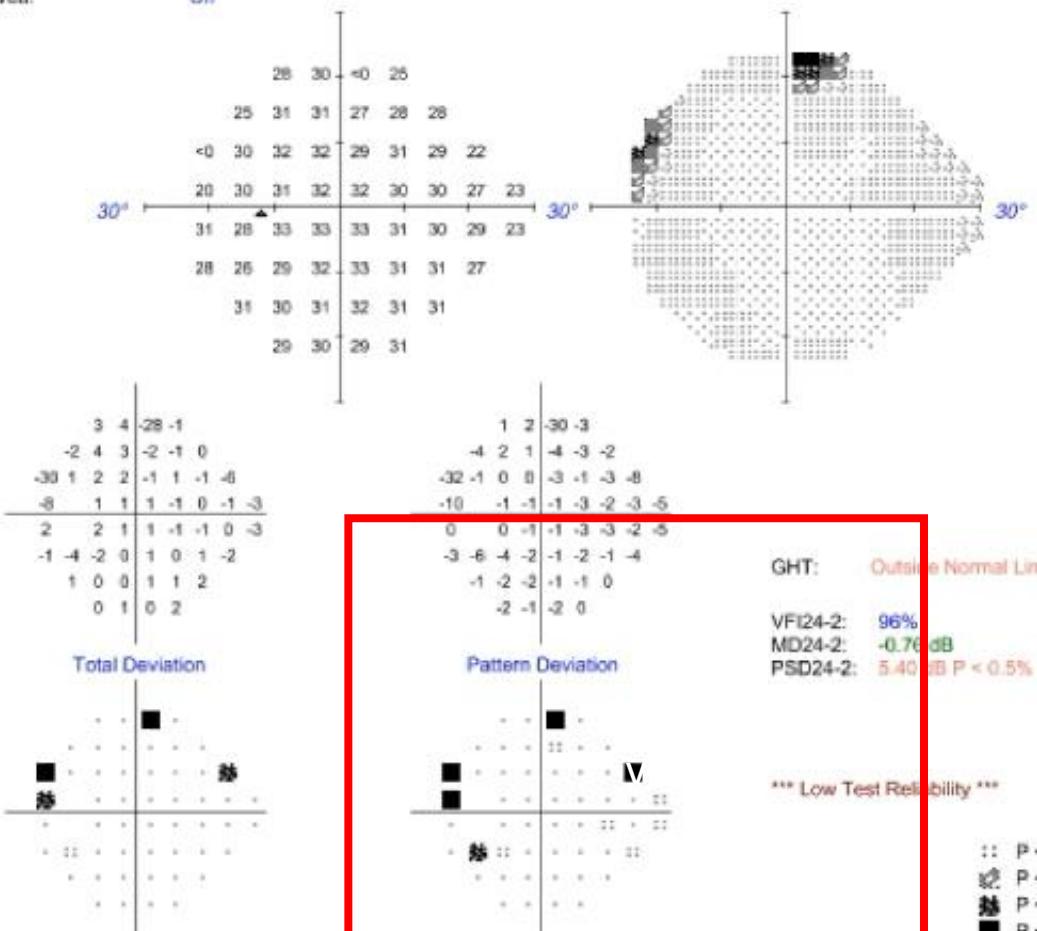
# 12 months later...



■ OS Single Field Analysis

#### Central 24-2 Threshold Test

Fixation Monitor:	Blind Spot
Fixation Target:	Central
Fixation Losses:	5/11 XX
False POS Errors:	6%
False NEG Errors:	12%
Test Duration:	03:59
Fovea:	Off



**OUTL:** Outside Normal Limits

D24-2: 5.40 dB P < 0.5%

D24-2: 5.40 P < 0.5%

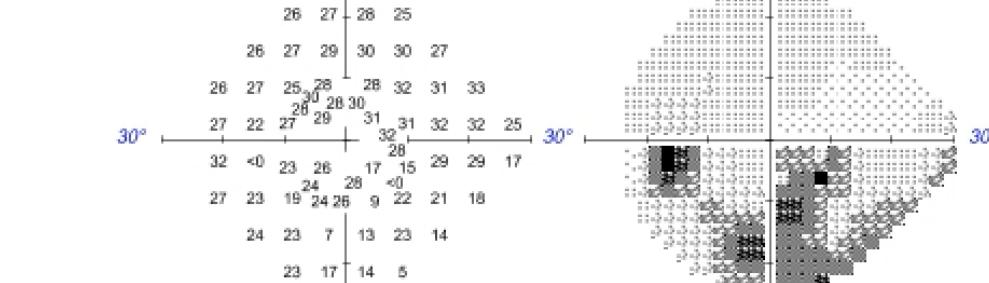
Digitized by srujanika@gmail.com

**Low Test Reliability \*\*\***

● P < 5%  
○ P < 2%  
■ P < 1%  
■ P < 0.5%

OS Single Field Analysis

Fixation Monitor:	Gaze Monitor
Fixation Target:	Central
Fixation Losses:	0/0
False POS Errors:	5%
False NEG Errors:	Off
Test Duration:	03:04
Fovea:	Off



1	1	2	-1		-1	0	0	-3	
-1	0	1	1	2	0		-2	-2	-1
-2	-2	-5	-2	-2	2	5	-3	-3	-6
-2	-4	-2	-2	-1	0	0	-4	-5	-3
3	-8	-5	-4	-15	-17	-2	0	-9	1
-2	-7	-12	-8	-6	-22	-8	-9	-11	-4
							-10	-7	-17
							-9	-6	-35
							-13	0	7
							-24	-11	-11
							-12		

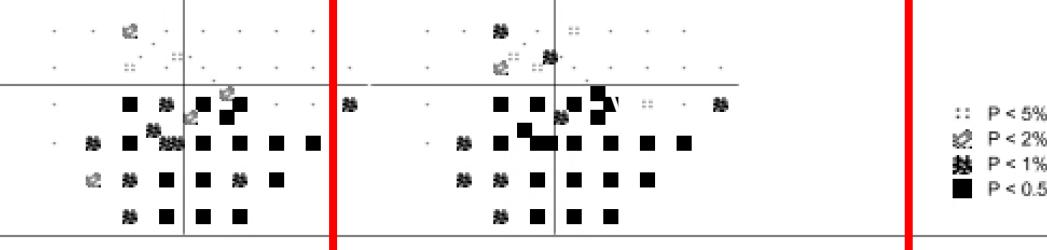
**GNL:** Outside Normal Limits

### Total Deviation

### Pattern Deviation

PSD24-2C; 8.25 dB P < 0.5%

\* \* \* \* \*

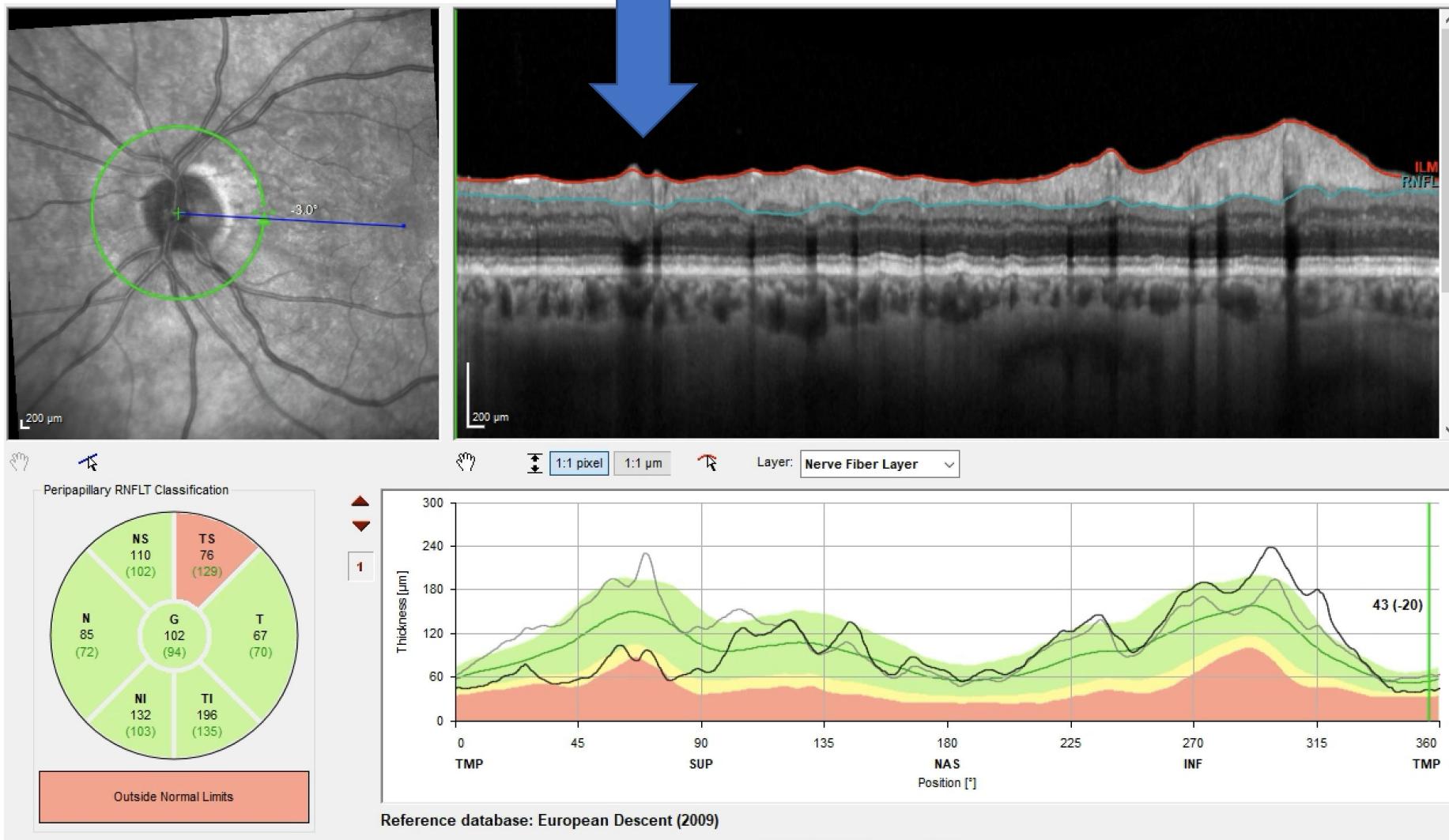


## Comments

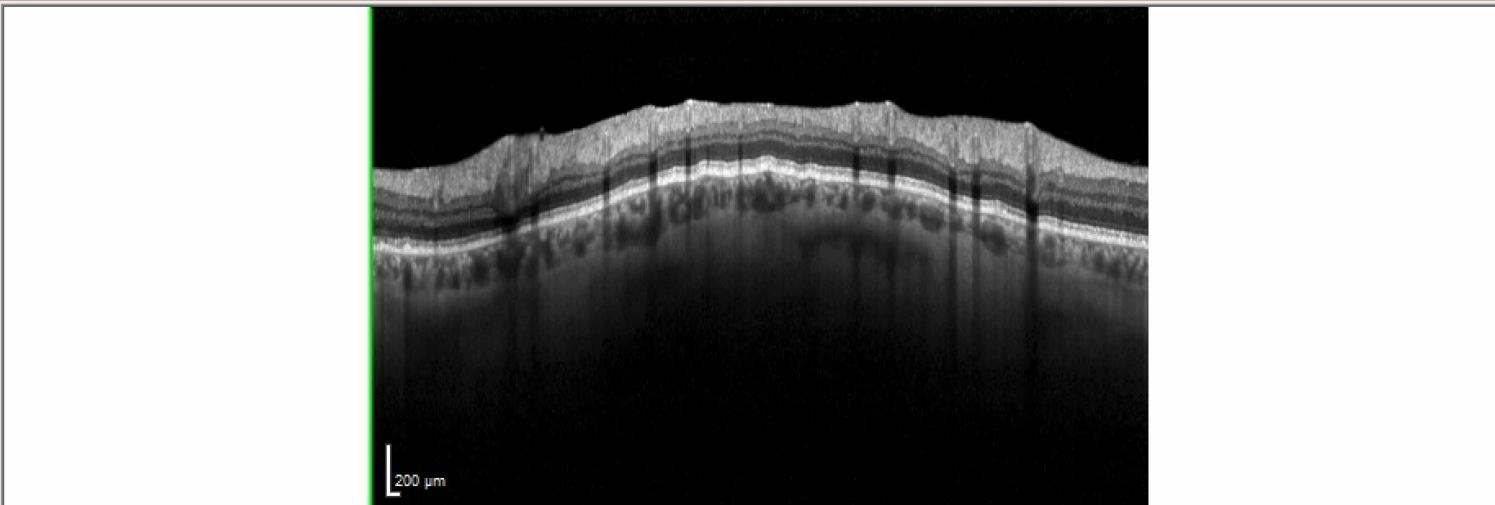
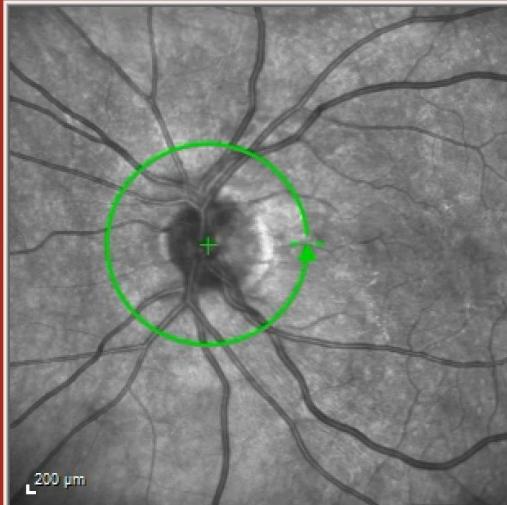
## Signature

\* P < 5%  
 \*\* P < 2%  
 \*\*\* P < 1%  
 \*\*\*\* P < 0.5%

# 3 months later...



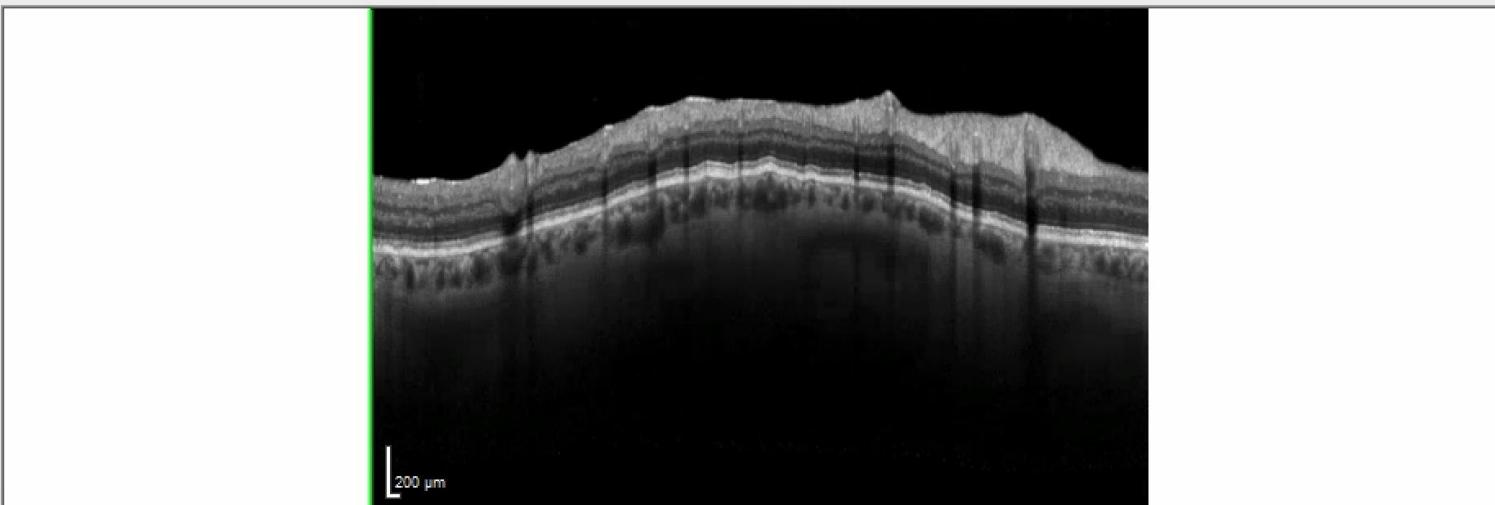
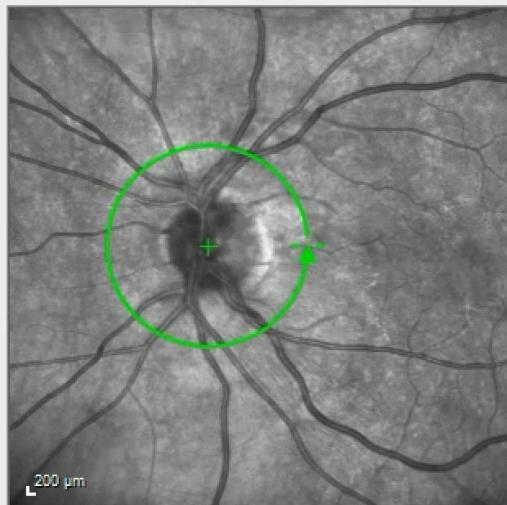
Display 3D View Thickness Profile Progression



Auto

Auto 1:1 pixel 1:1 μm

Reference: 27/04/2023



Examination: 26/10/2023



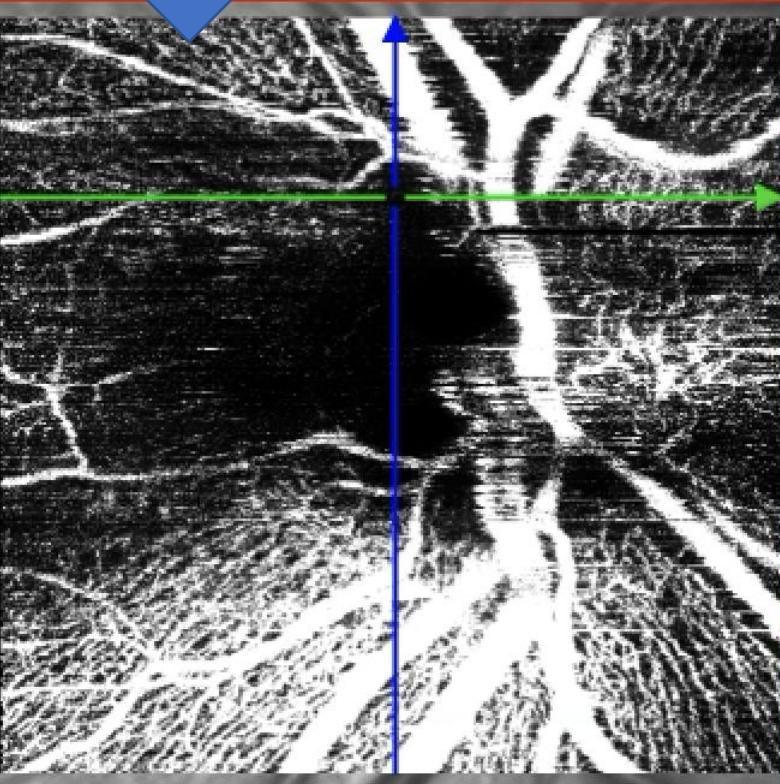
IR: 768 x 768 [HS] 30° (8.3 mm) ART (21)

OCT: 768 x 496 [HS] ART (100) Q: 32

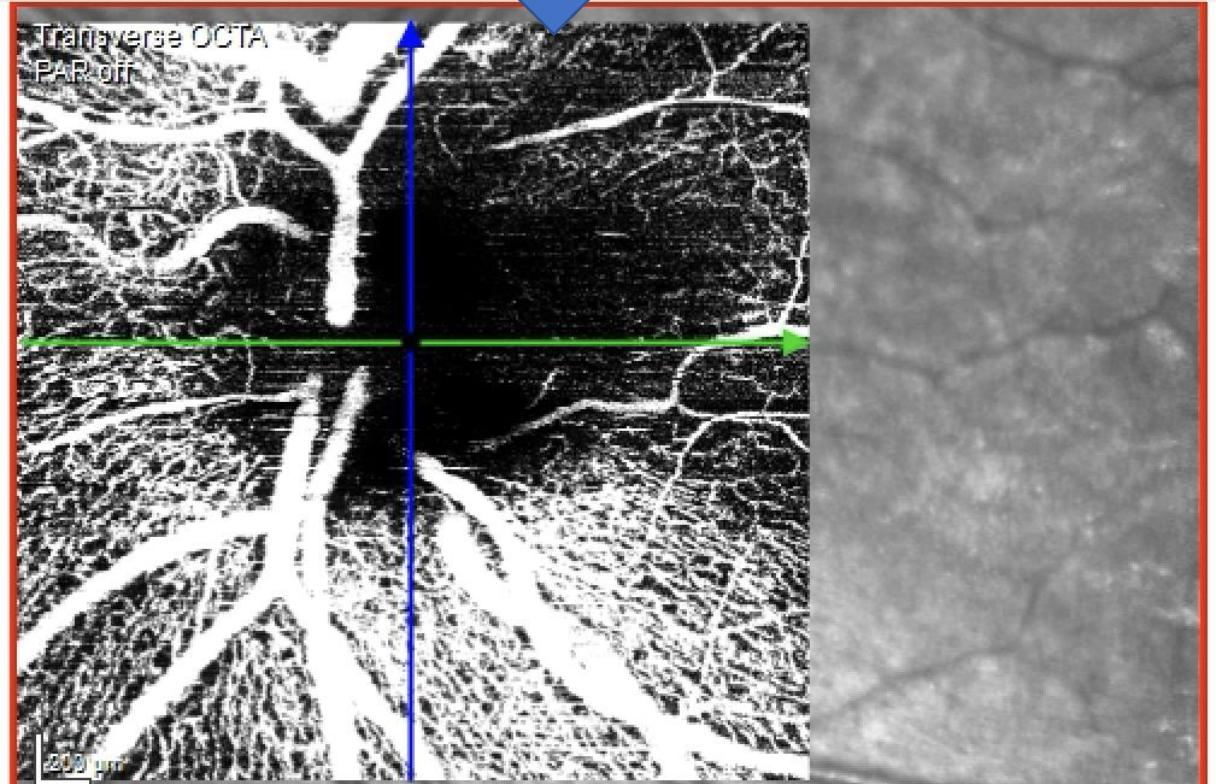
OCTA

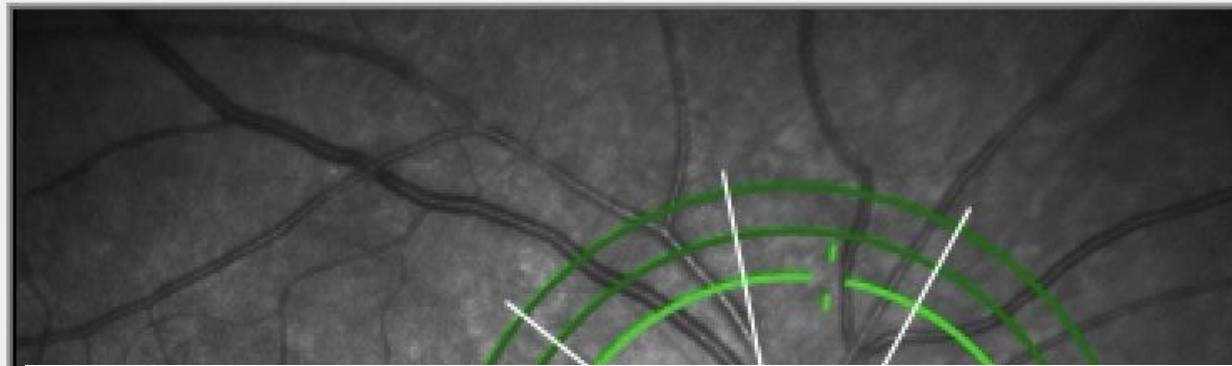


Transverse OCTA  
PAR off

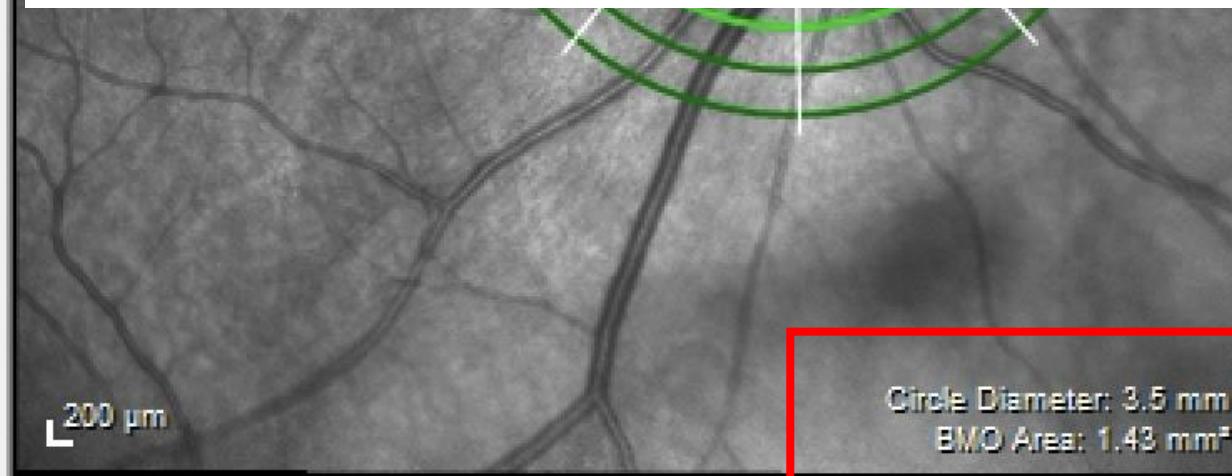


Transverse OCTA  
PAR off



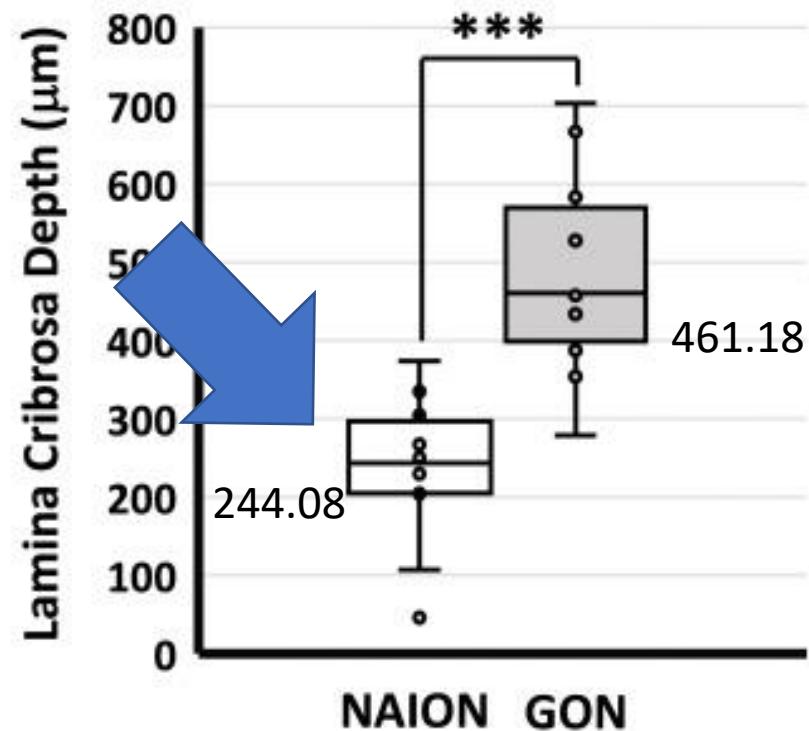


**Diagnosis:**  
**Non-arteritic Ischaemic Optic Neuropathy**

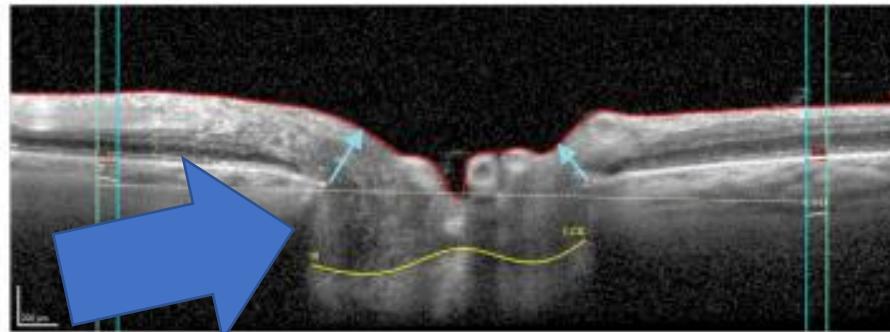


# LC Depth significantly greater in the GON group compared to NAION

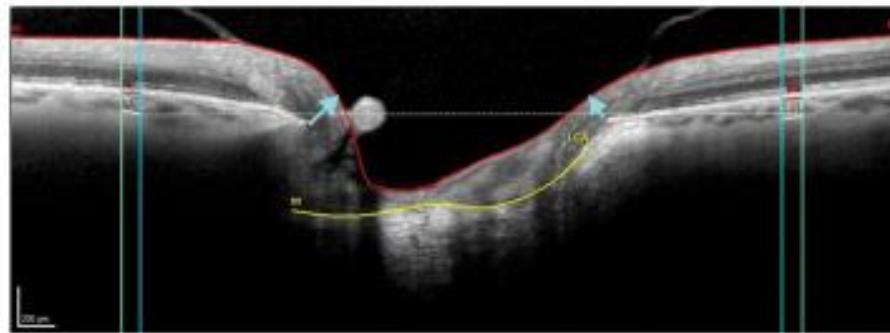
A



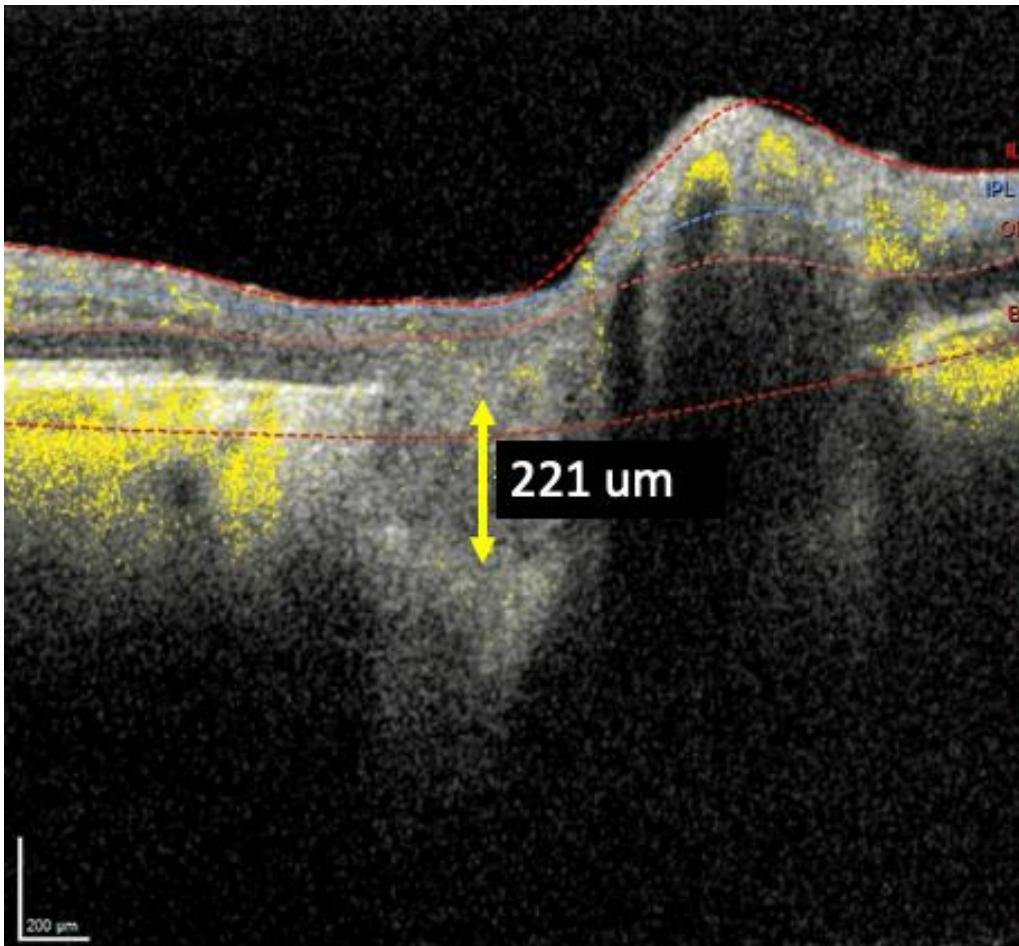
B NAION

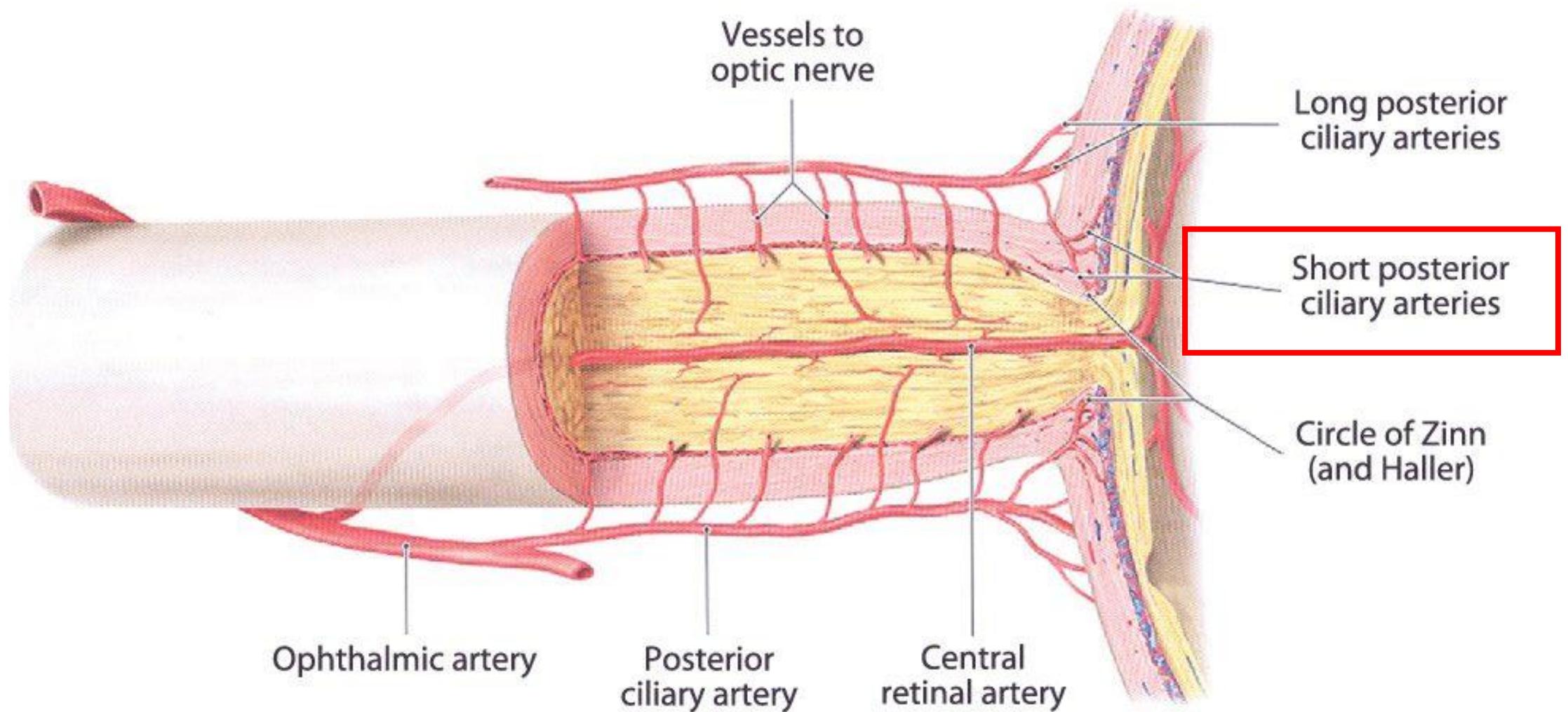


C GON



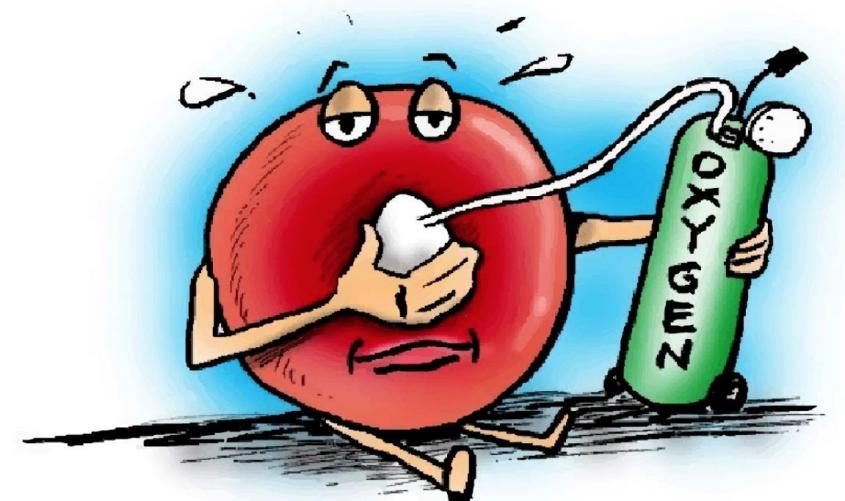
# Laminar Cribrosa Depth in our patient:





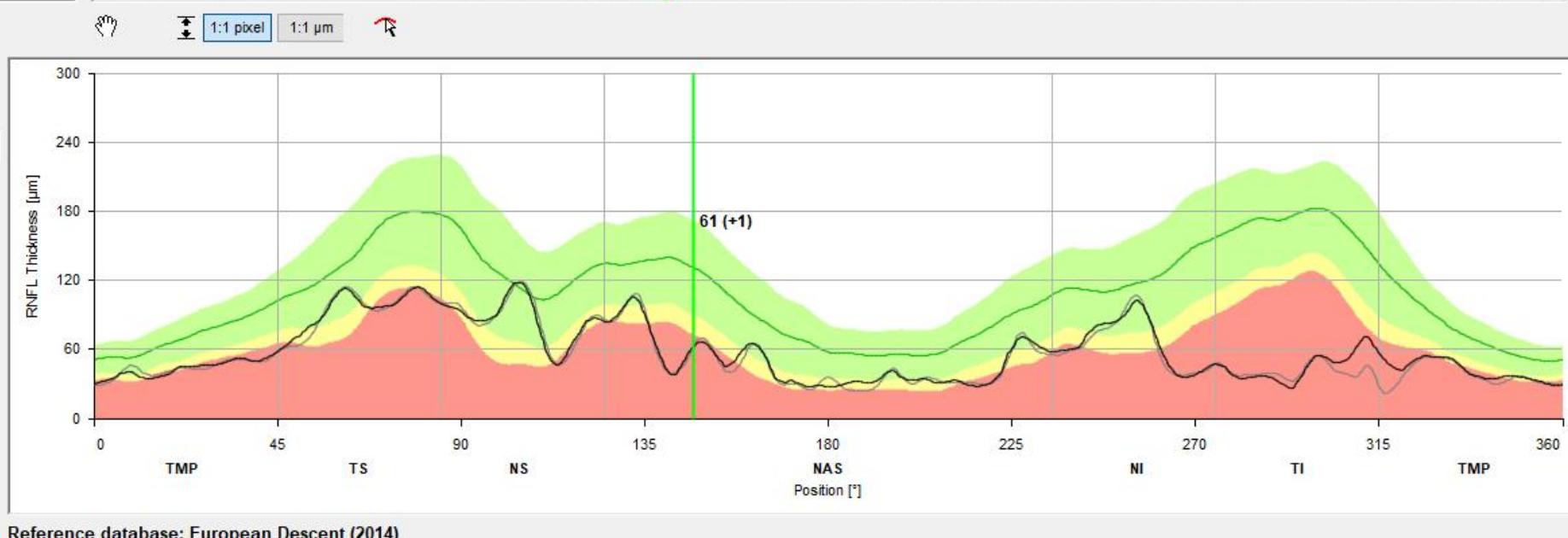
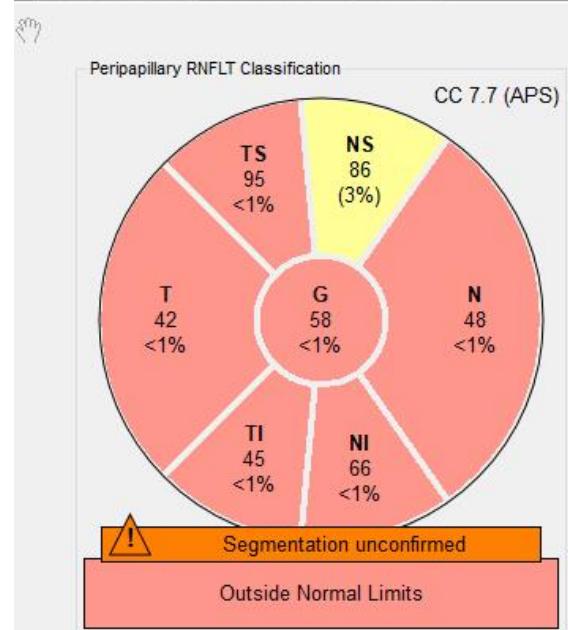
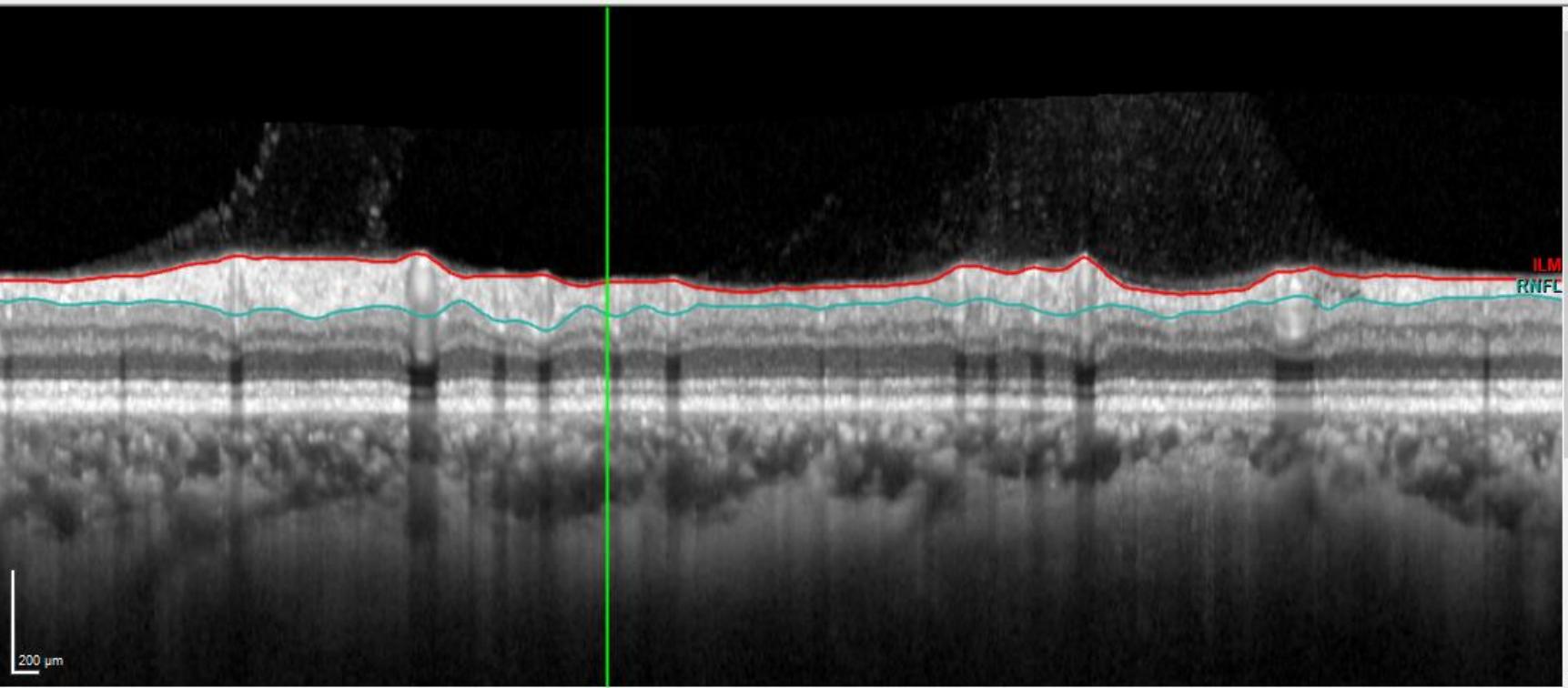
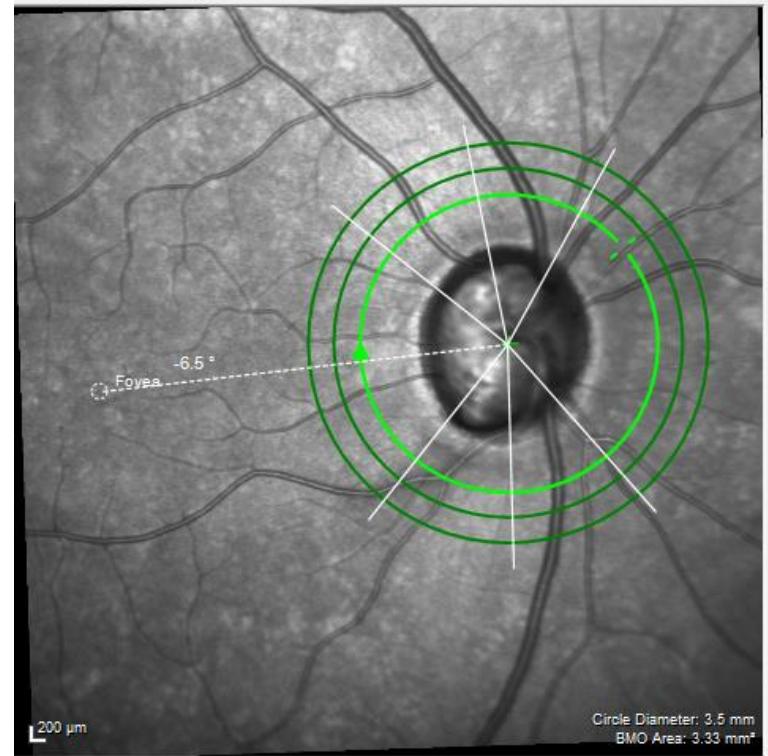
# Clinical Pearls: NAION

- Dense altitudinal field defects common
- Small Crowded Optic Disc 'Disk at risk' are the typical give-a-way
- Defects are static over time
- **Lamina Cribrosa Depth:** Deeper in GON group.
- **OCTA** can be useful for vascular causes of optic nerve thinning



# Case 3. Mrs MB – 43yo female

	R	L
BCVA	6/6	6/6
IOP	16	12

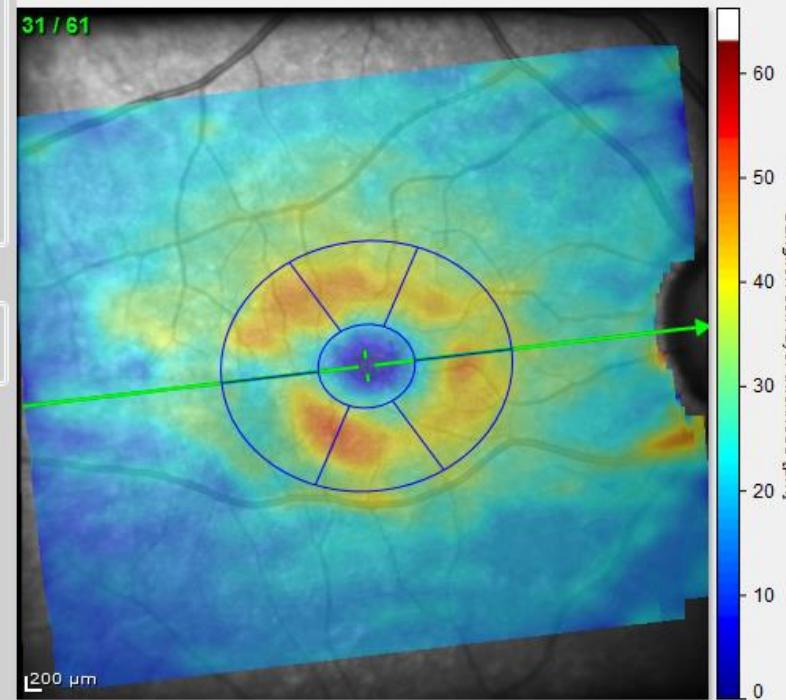


Default slabs

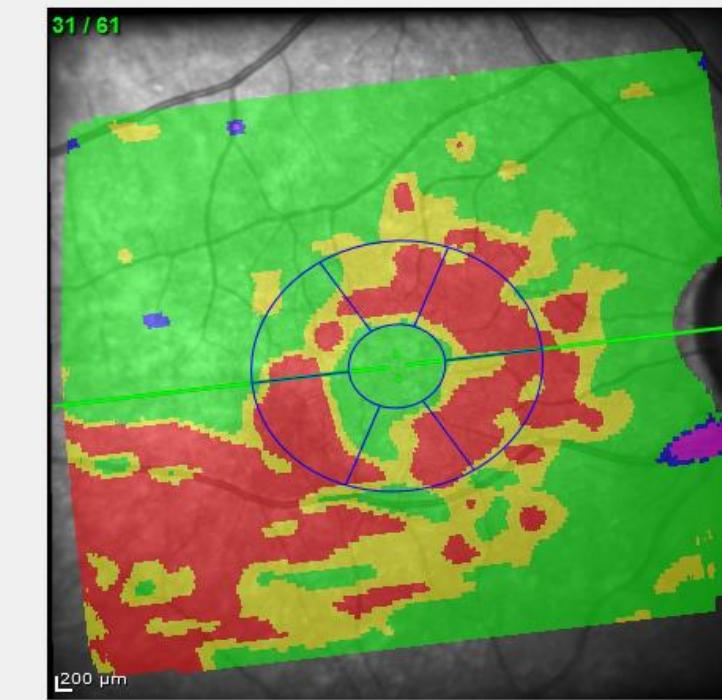
- RNFL
- GCL
- IPL

Overlay:

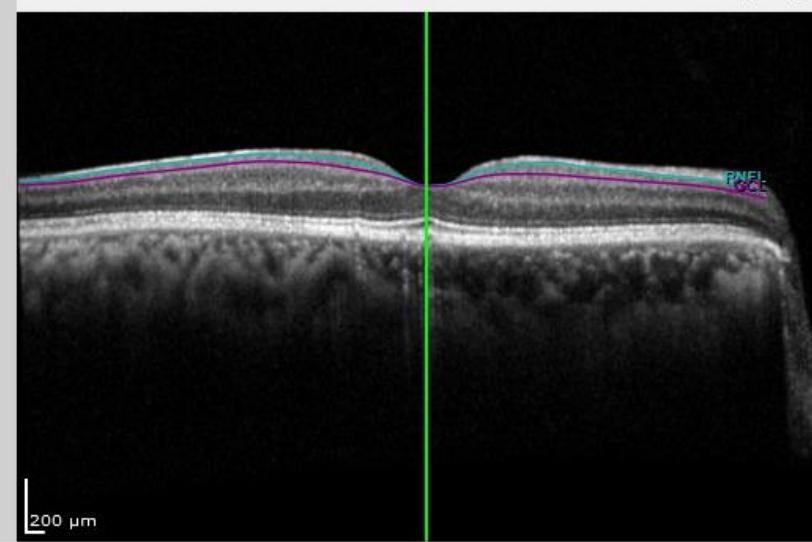
Segmentation

 Edit

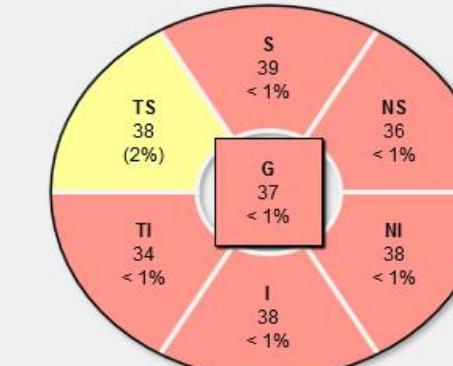
GCL



Auto



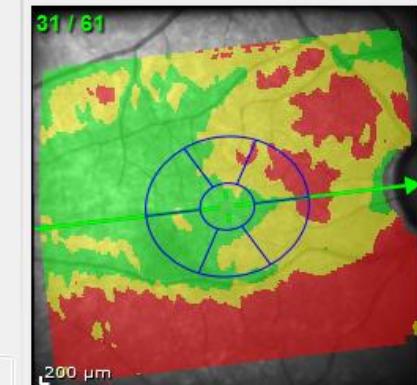
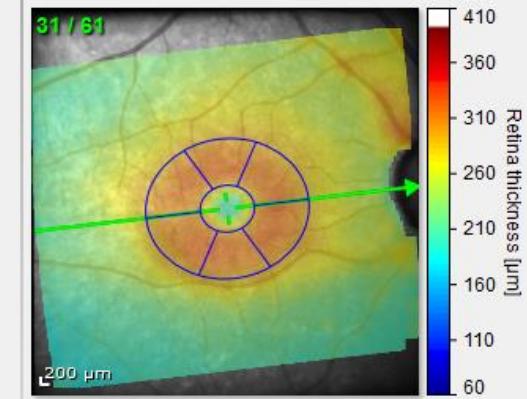
## Macular ganglion cell layer classification

Within normal limits  
(> 5%)Borderline  
(< 5%)Outside normal limits  
(< 1%)

Outside normal limits

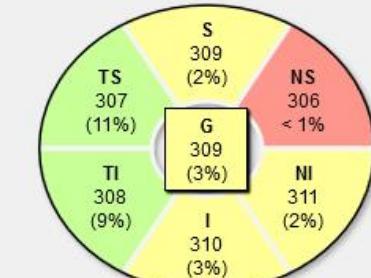
Reference database: European descent (2014)

Retina



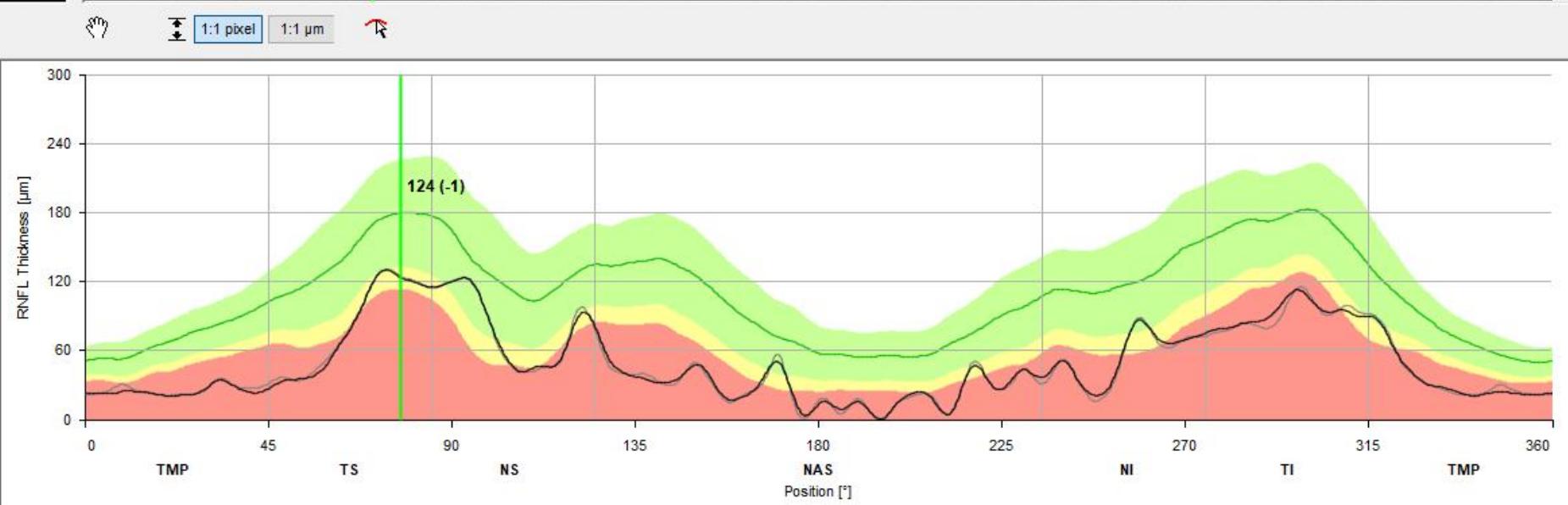
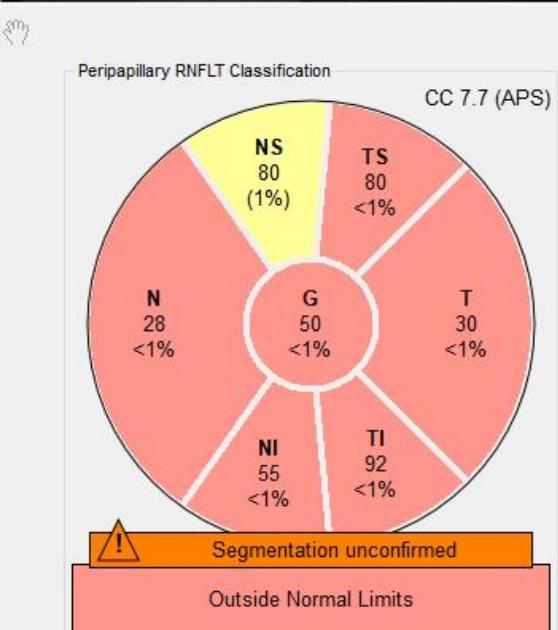
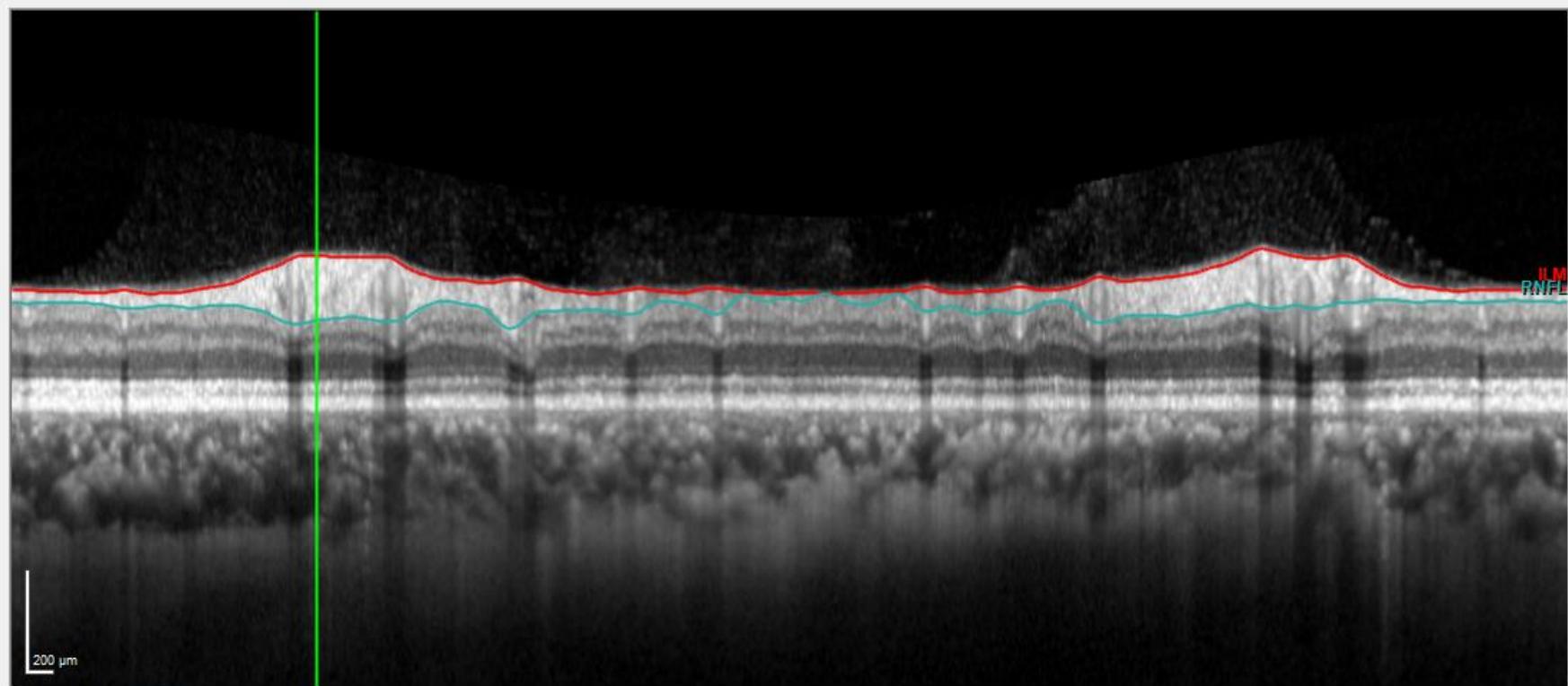
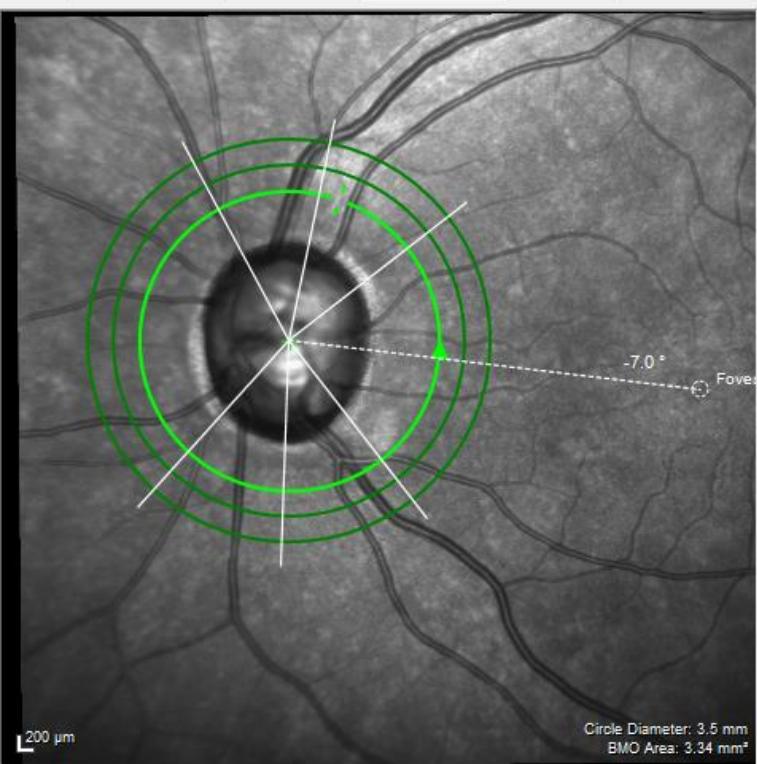
Retina

## Macular retina classification

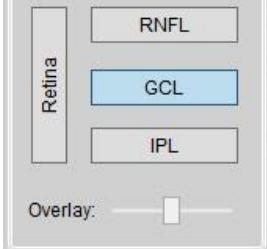


Outside normal limits

Retina

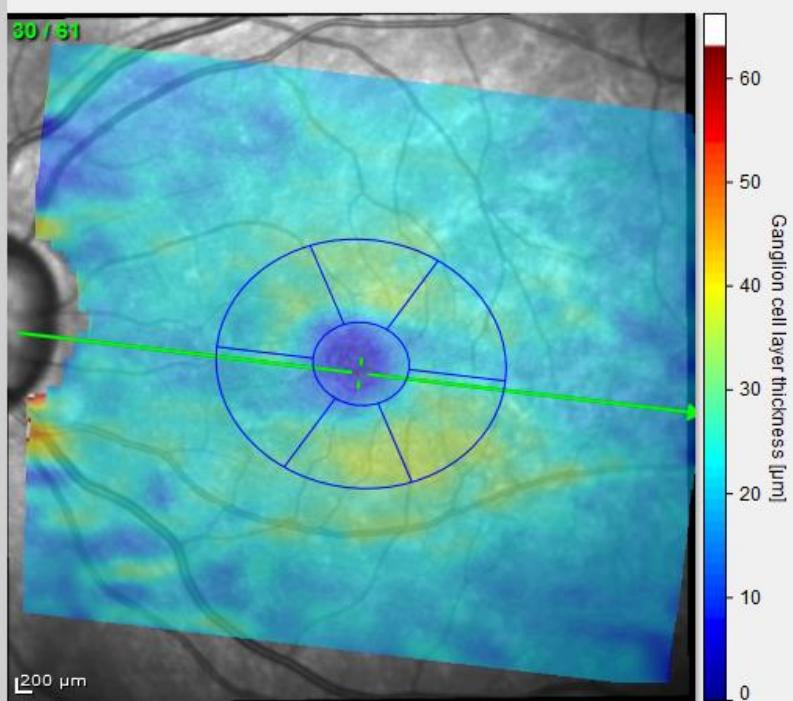


Default slabs

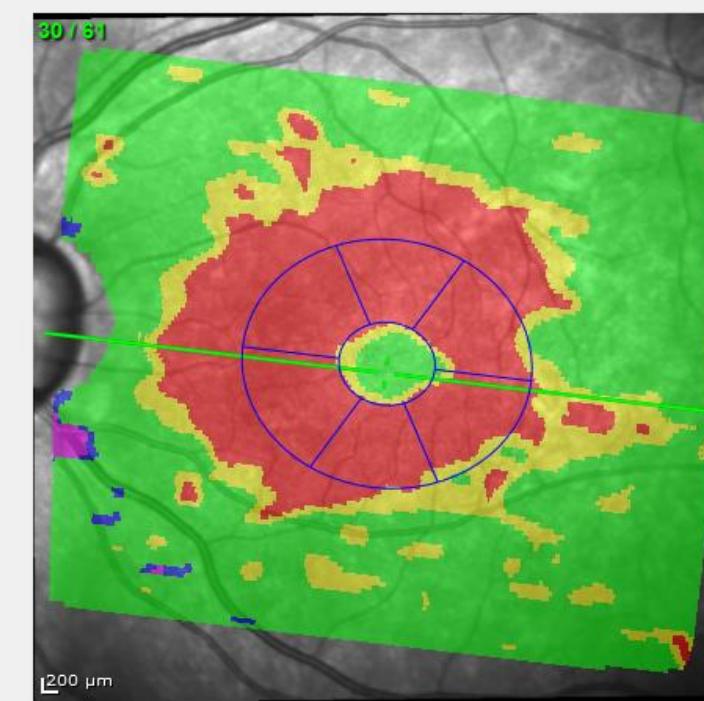


Overlay:

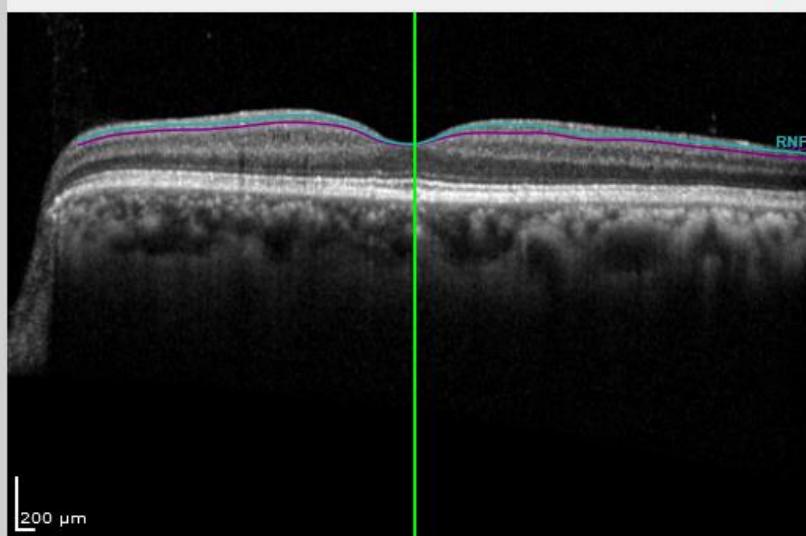
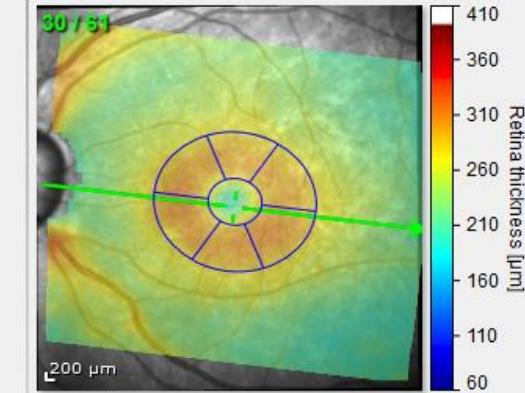
Segmentation



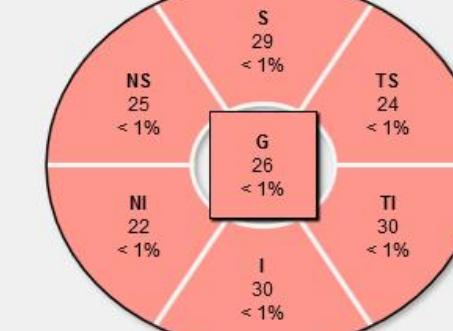
GCL



Retina



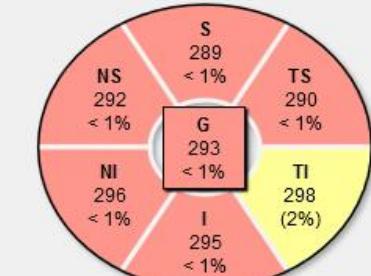
## Macular ganglion cell layer classification

Within normal limits  
(> 5%)Borderline  
(< 5%)Outside normal limits  
(< 1%)

Outside normal limits

Reference database: European descent (2014)

## Macular retina classification



Outside normal limits

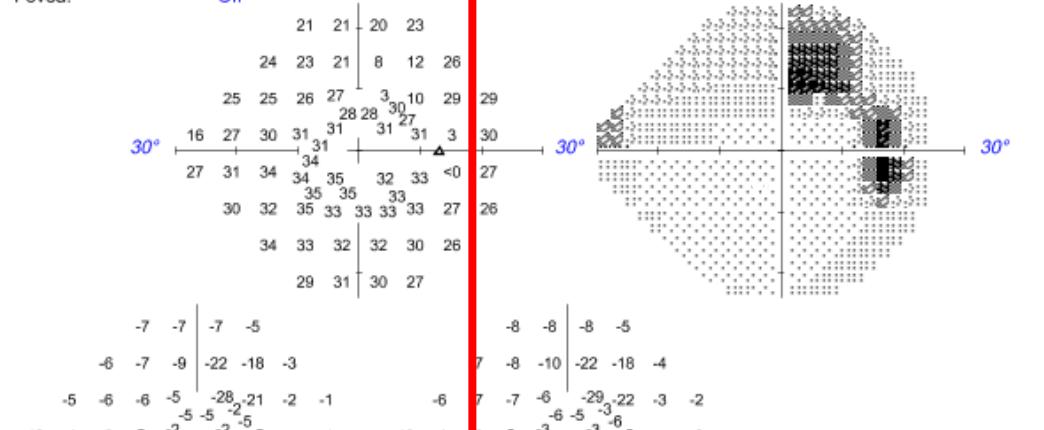
## OD Single Field Analysis

## Central 24-2C Threshold Test

Fixation Monitor: Gaze/Blind Spot  
 Fixation Target: Central  
 Fixation Losses: 4/12 XX  
 False POS Errors: 12%  
 False NEG Errors: 9%  
 Test Duration: 04:44  
 Fovea: Off

Stimulus: III, White  
 Background: 31.5 asb  
 Strategy: SITA Faster  
 Pupil Diameter:  
 Visual Acuity:  
 R: +2.25 DS

\*\*\* Low Test Reliability \*\*\*



GHT: Outside Normal Limits

VFI24-2C: 91%  
 MD24-2C: -3.04 dB P < 1%  
 PSD24-2C: 6.12 dB P < 0.5%

:: P < 5%  
 ☐ P < 2%  
 ■ P < 1%  
 □ P < 0.5%



Comments

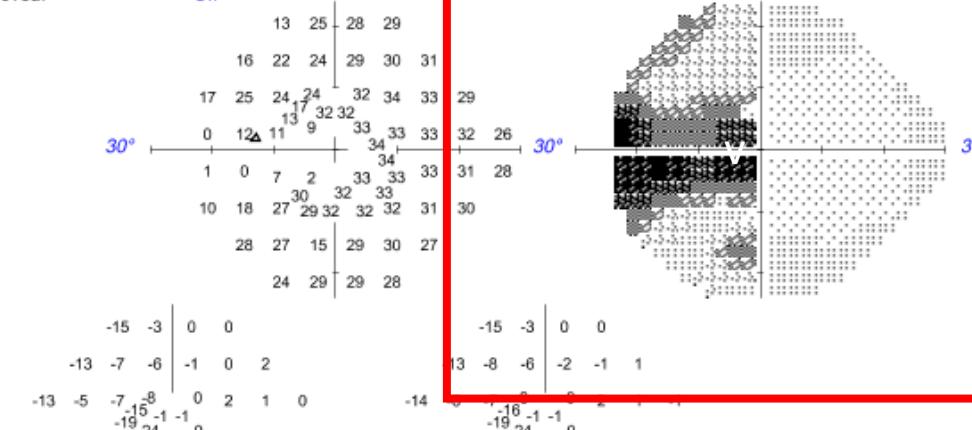
Signature

## OS Single Field Analysis

## Central 24-2C Threshold Test

Fixation Monitor: Gaze/Blind Spot  
 Fixation Target: Central  
 Fixation Losses: 0/12  
 False POS Errors: 8%  
 False NEG Errors: 16%  
 Test Duration: 05:23  
 Fovea: Off

Stimulus: III, White  
 Background: 31.5 asb  
 Strategy: SITA Faster  
 Pupil Diameter:  
 Visual Acuity:  
 R: +2.50 DS



GHT: Outside Normal Limits

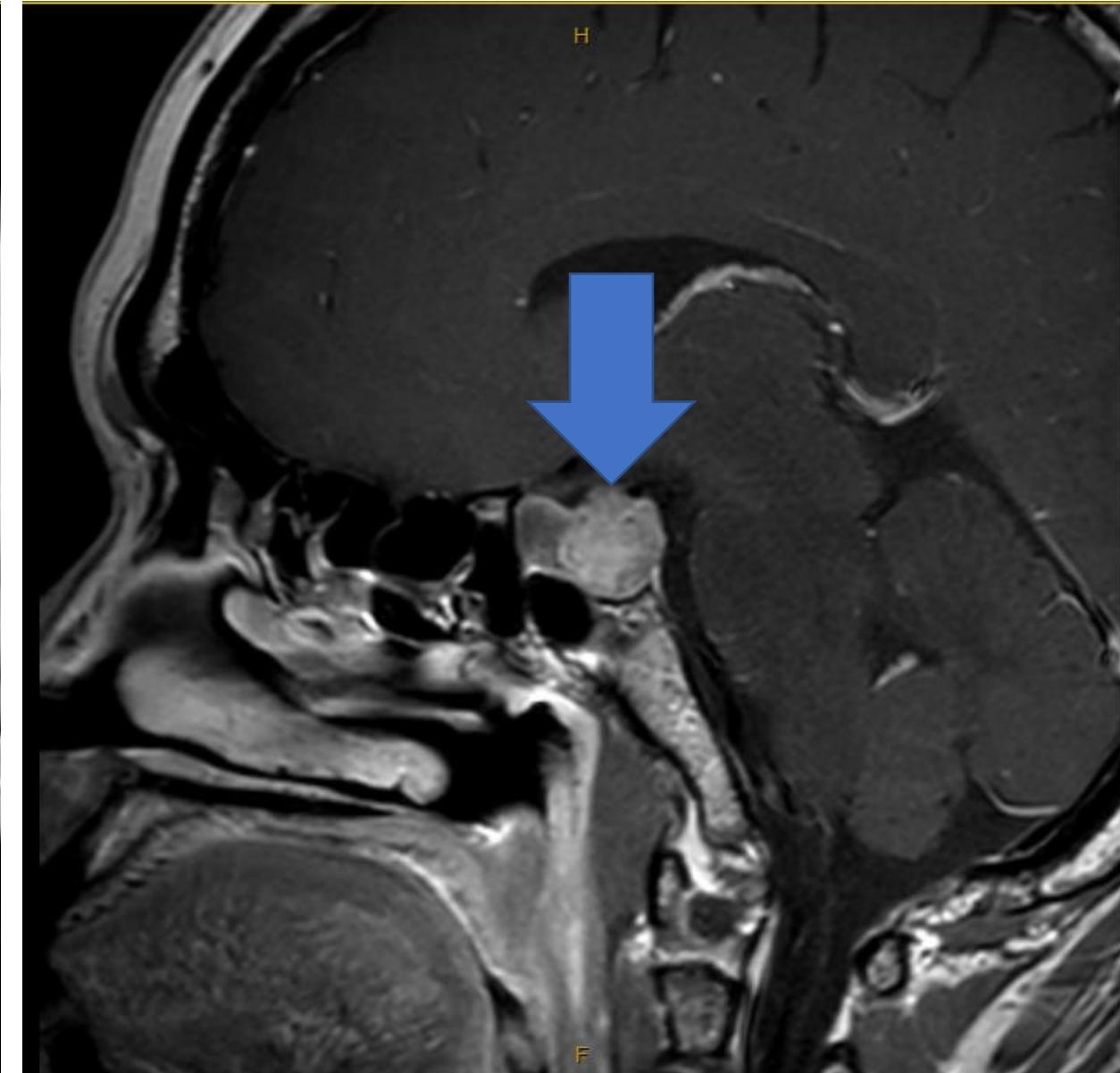
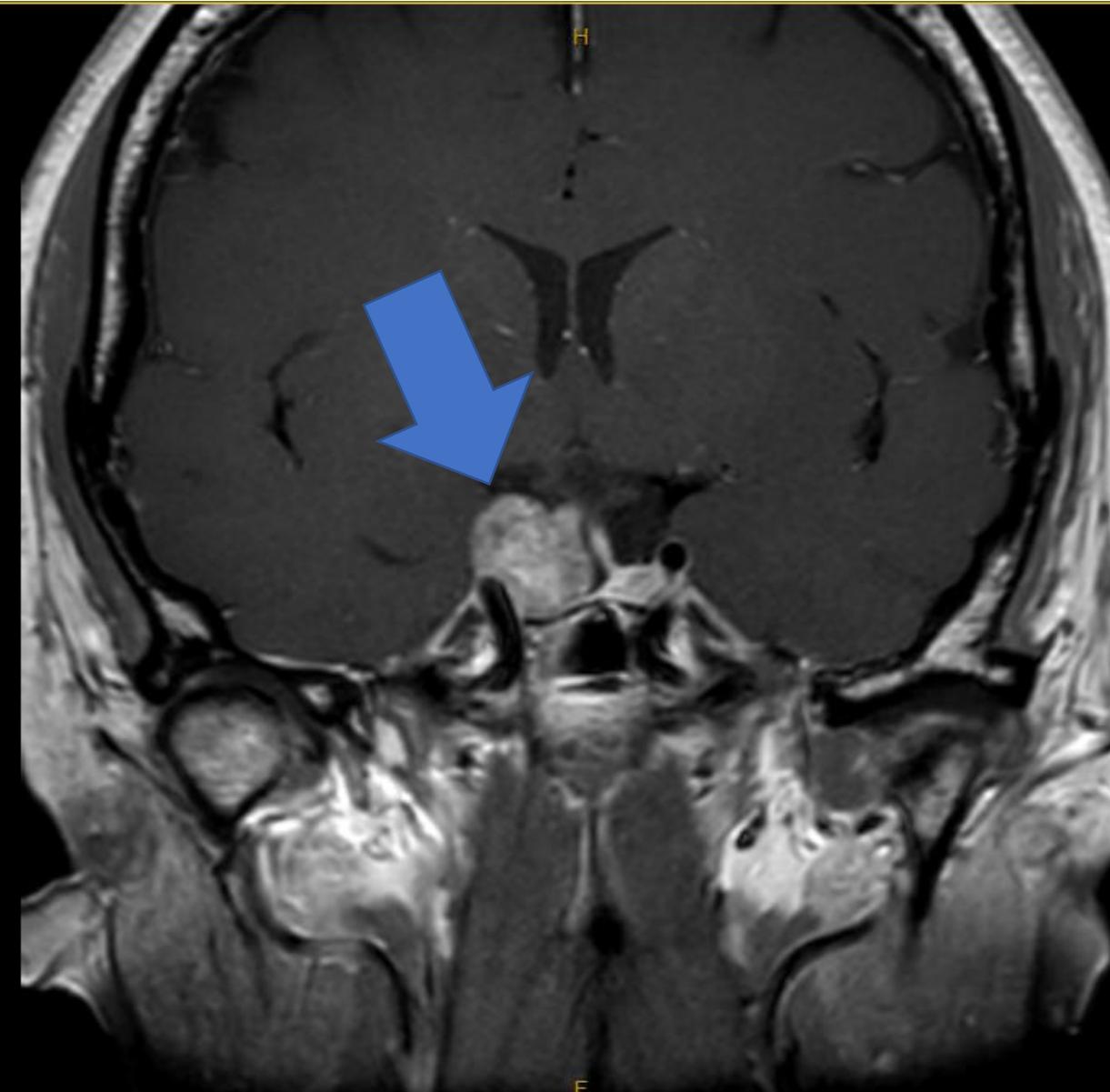
VFI24-2C: 81%  
 MD24-2C: -5.22 dB P < 0.5%  
 PSD24-2C: 9.17 dB P < 0.5%

:: P < 5%  
 ☐ P < 2%  
 ■ P < 1%  
 □ P < 0.5%



Comments

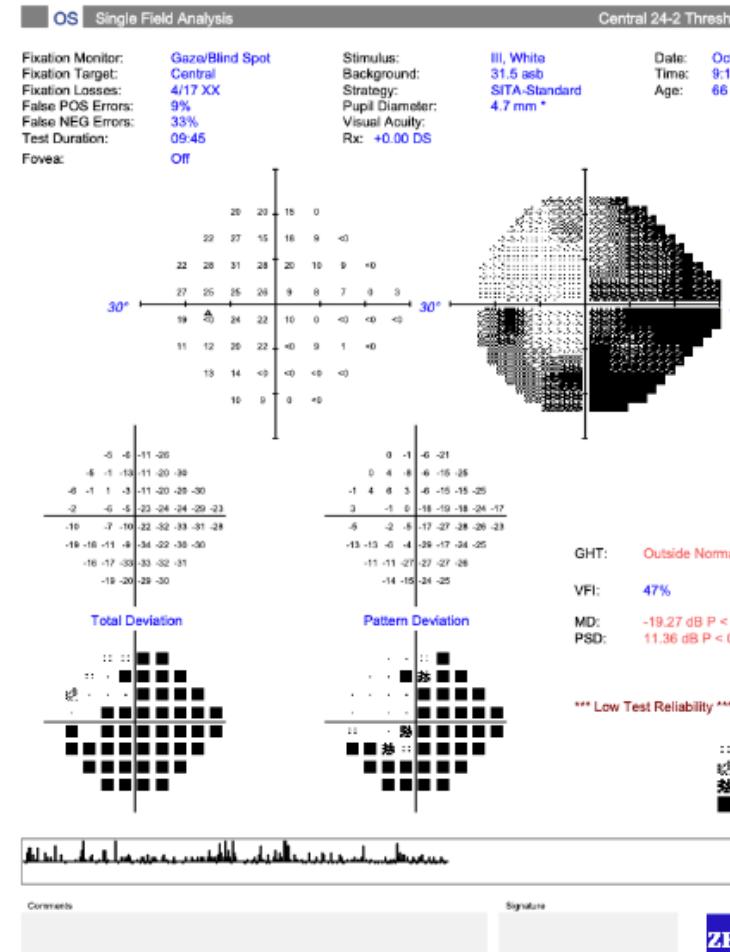
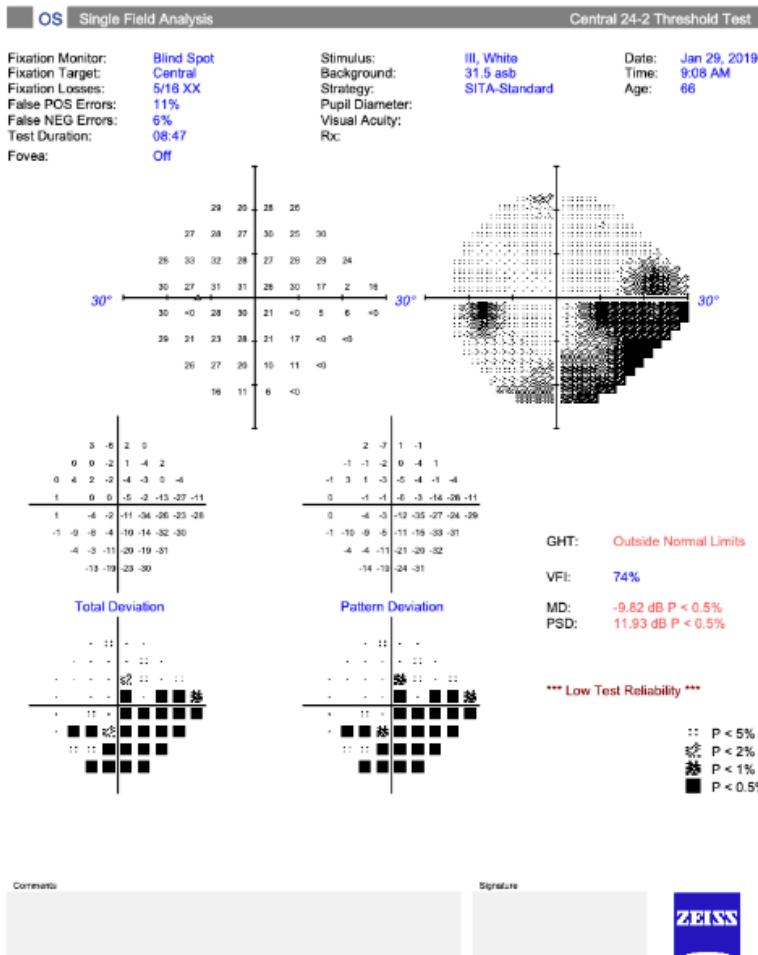
Signature

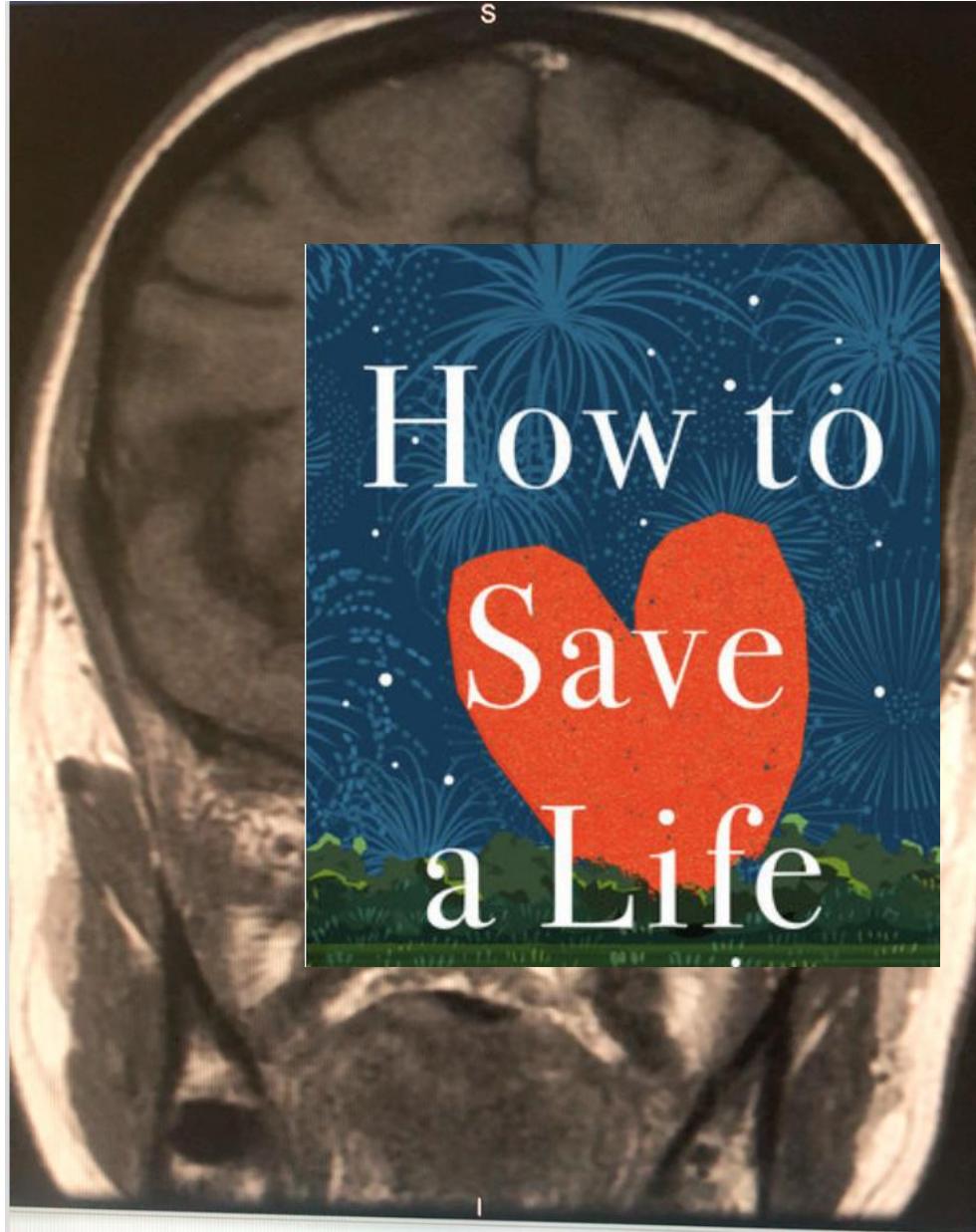


Another patient referred for glaucoma assessment...



# 6 months later...





# Atypical NTG: Predictive factors for compressive lesions

- Age younger than 50 years
- Visual acuity worse than 6/12
- Fast VF progression
- Visual field defects involving the vertical midline
- Pallor disproportionate to the disc cupping

# Neuroimaging in Patients with Atypical Normal-Tension Glaucoma

**126 NTG patients**

- 29 (23%) patients were qualified as positive

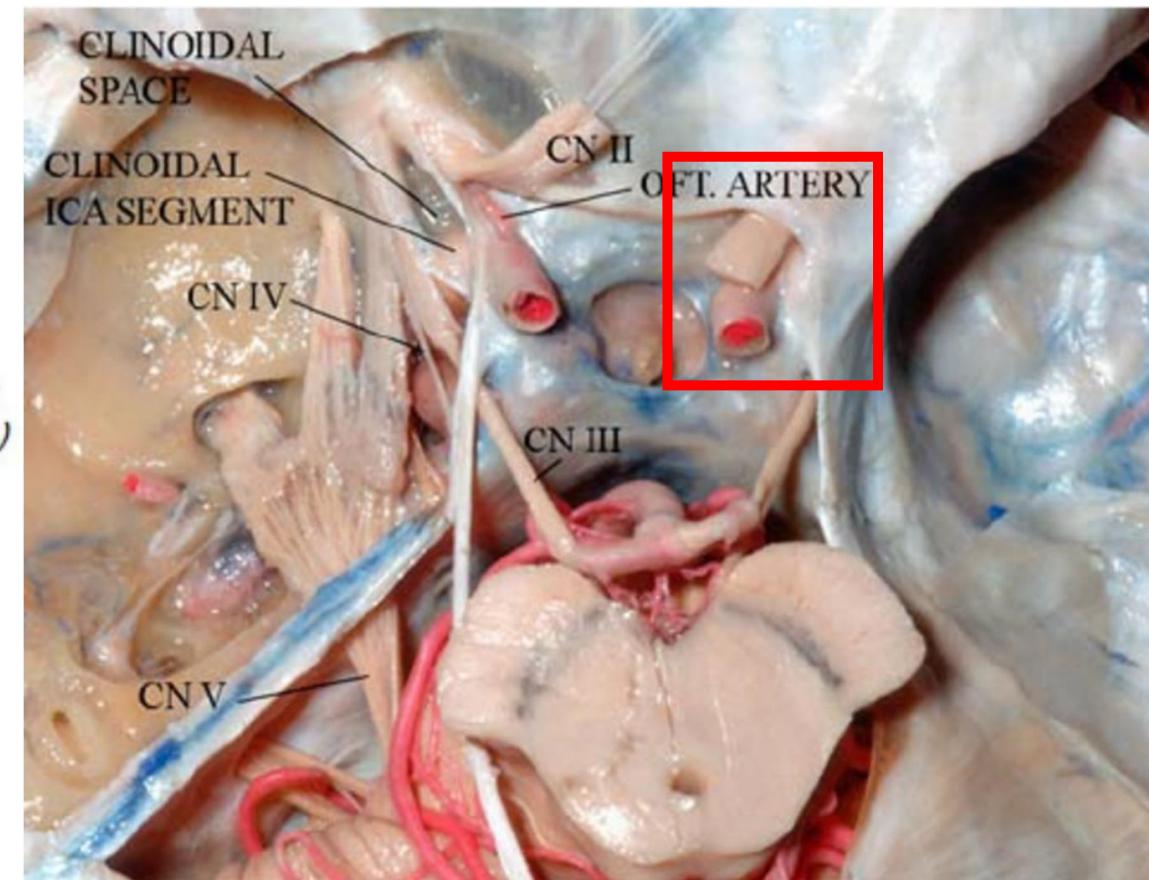
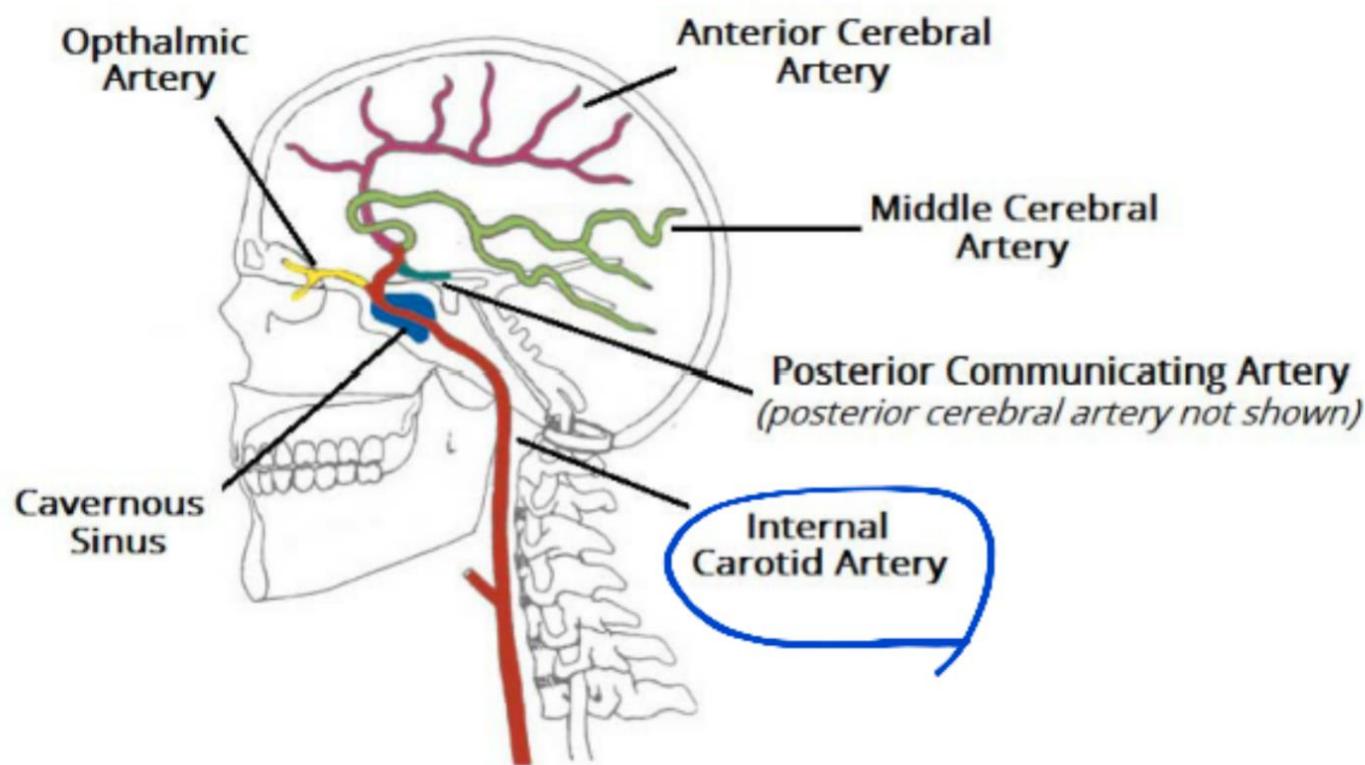
• **Pathology Breakdown:**

- Pituitary adenomas: 6 patients (4.5%).
- Intracranial meningiomas: 4 patients (3.1%).
- Optic nerve sheath meningiomas: 3 patients (2.4%).
- Brain glioma: 1 patient (0.8%)

• **Key Predictors for Detection:**

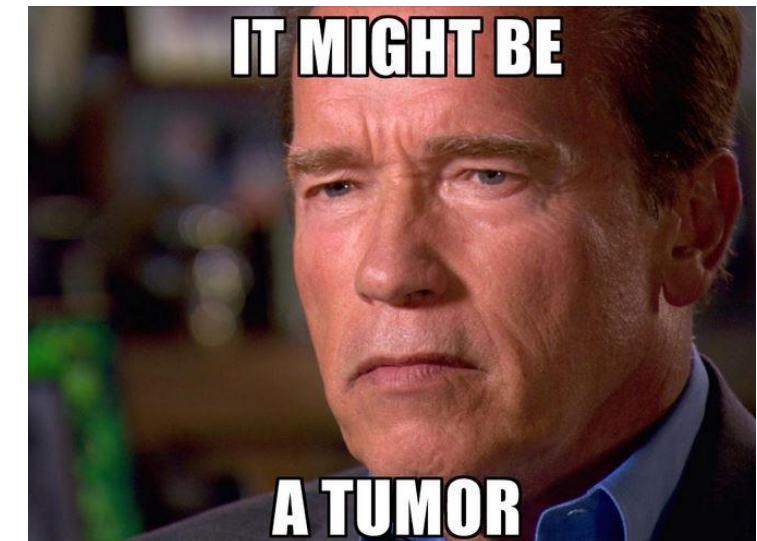
- Worsening best-corrected visual acuity (BCVA).
- Fast visual field (VF) progression.

# Supraclinoid- ophthalmic segment (C6)

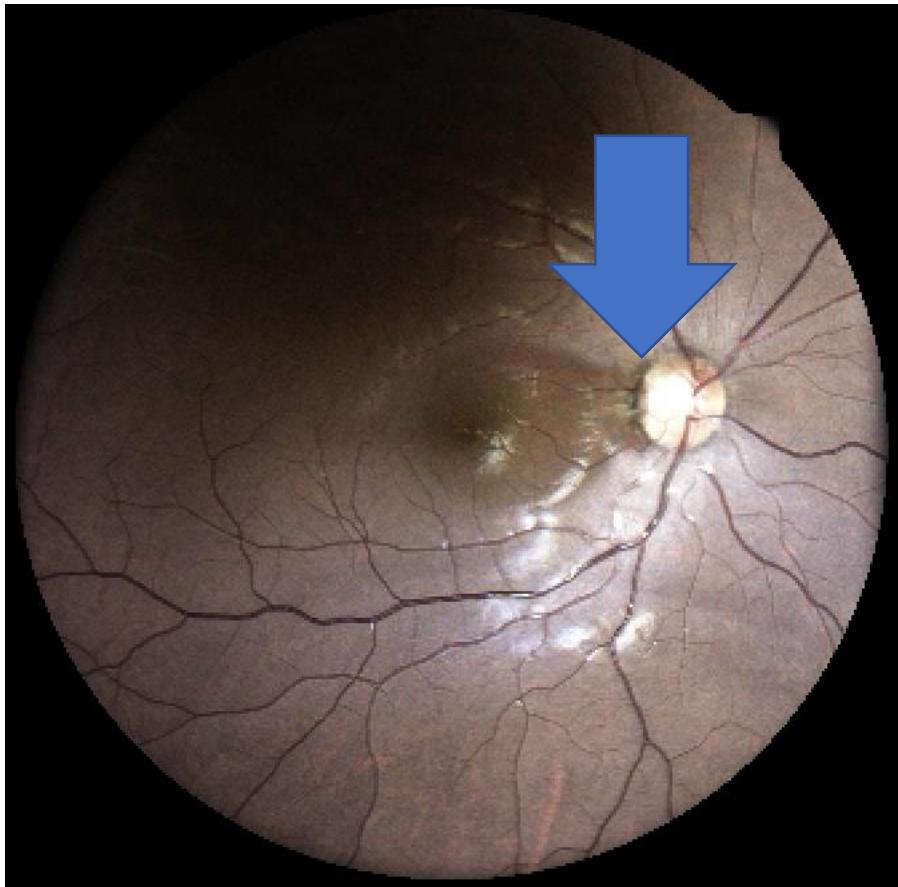


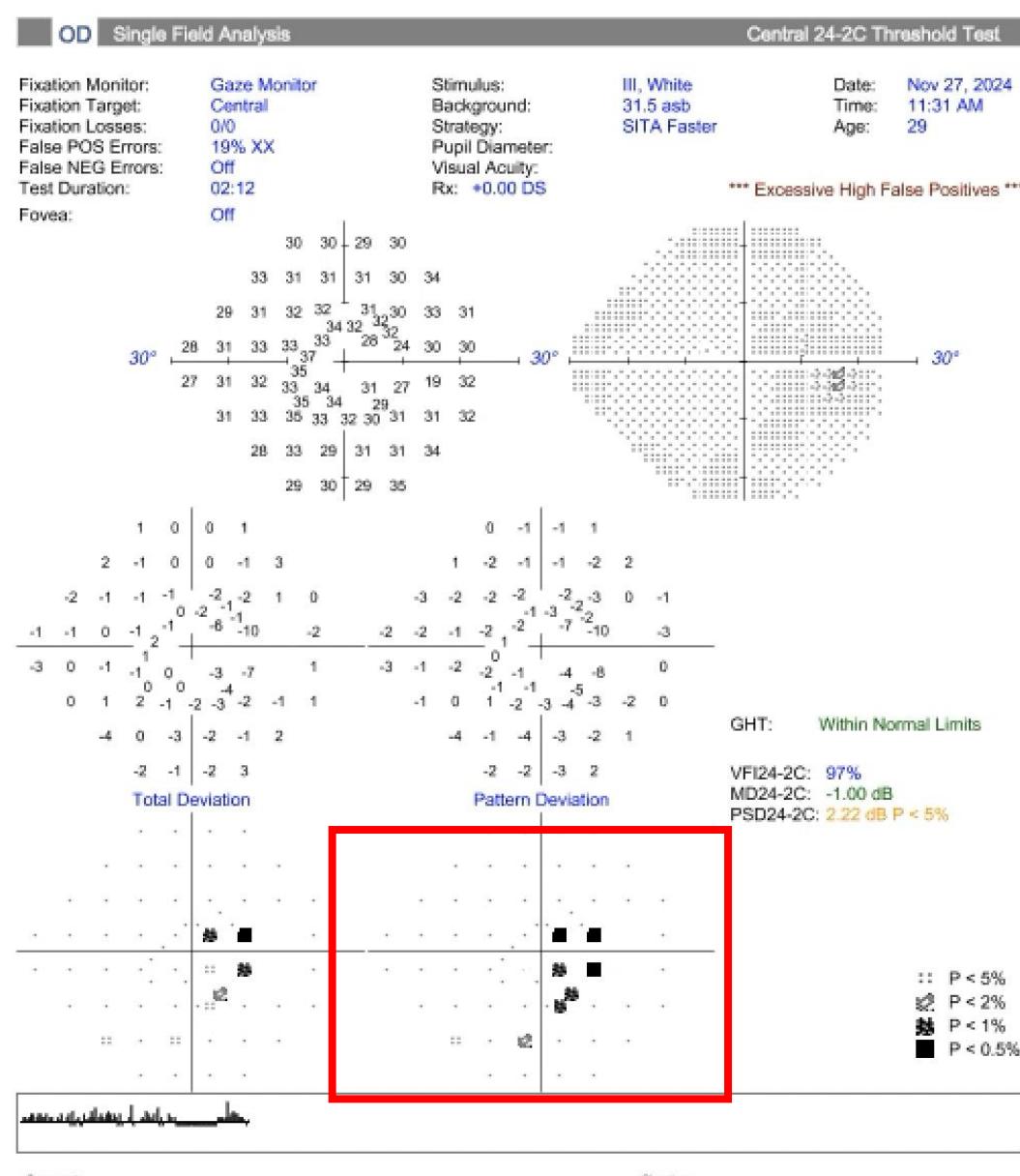
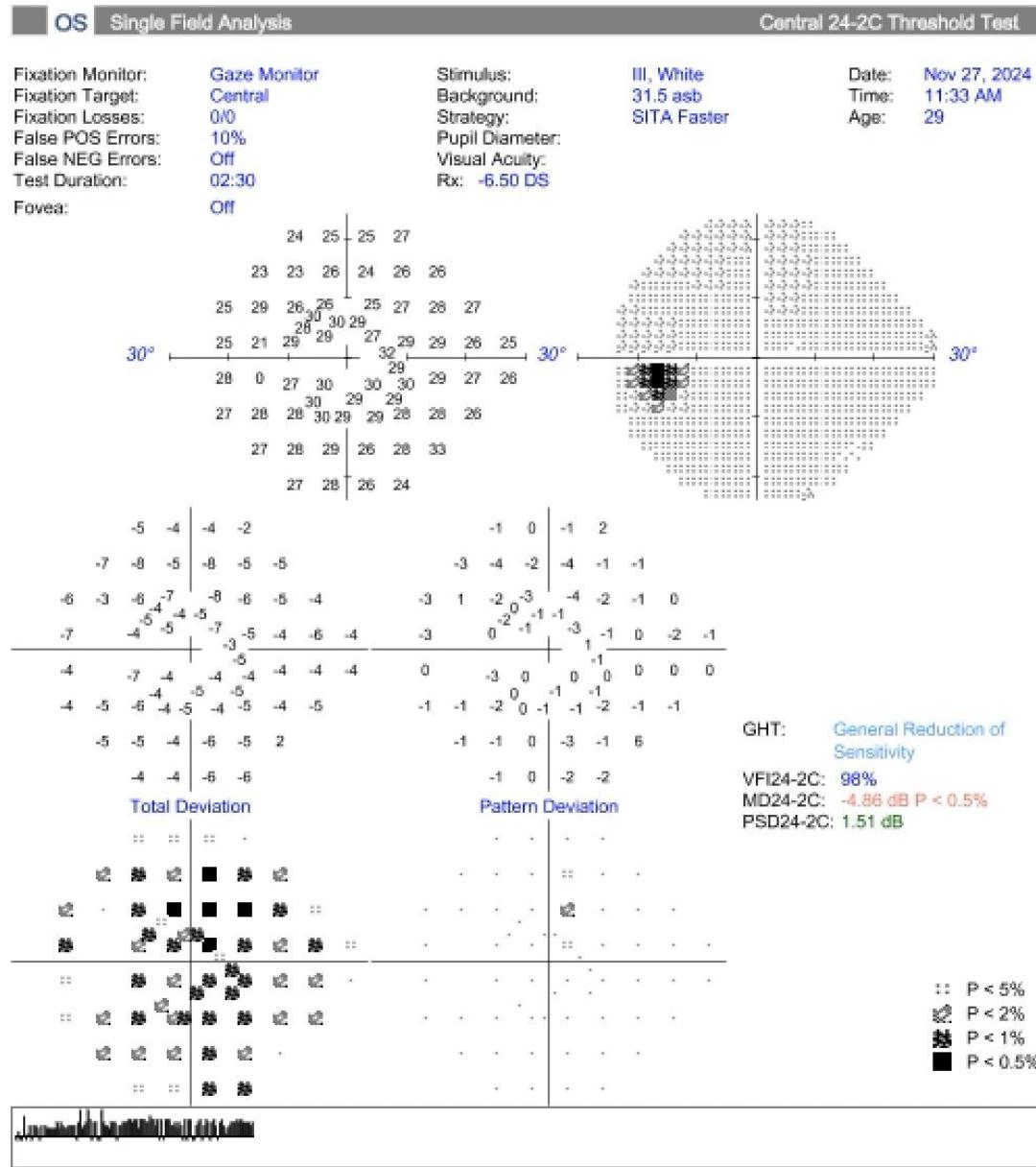
# Clinical Pearls: Compressive optic neuropathy

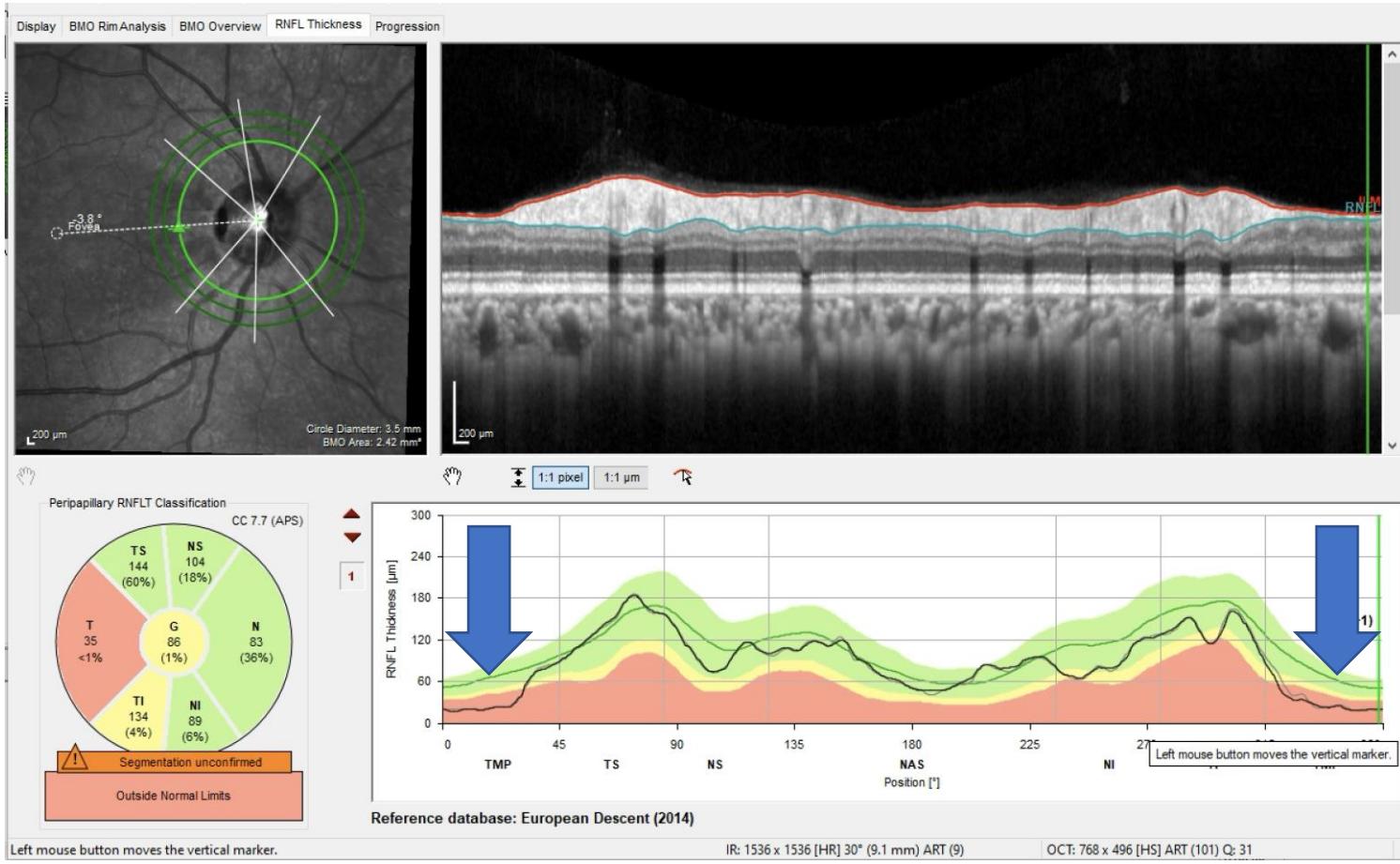
- Central or centrocecal scotomas are common
- Field defects often respect the vertical midline.
- Look for Optic disc pallor (especially temporal pallor)
- Consider if rapid VF progression
- Early and disproportionate color vision loss (dyschromatopsia)
- RAPD if unilateral or asymmetric.



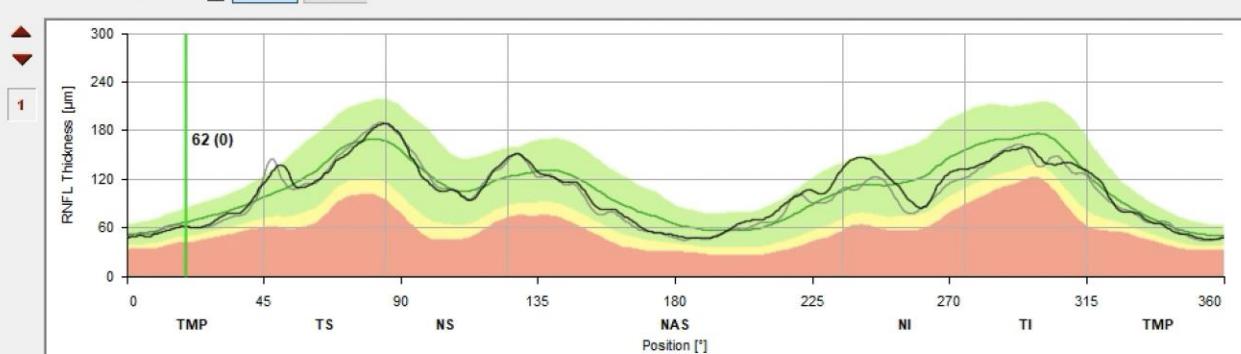
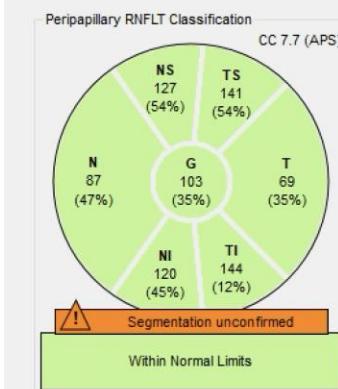
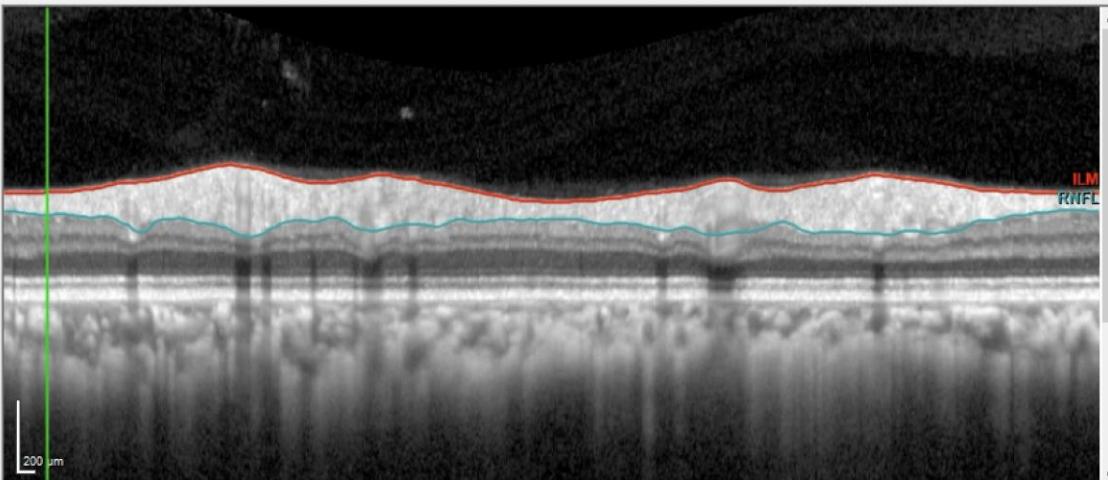
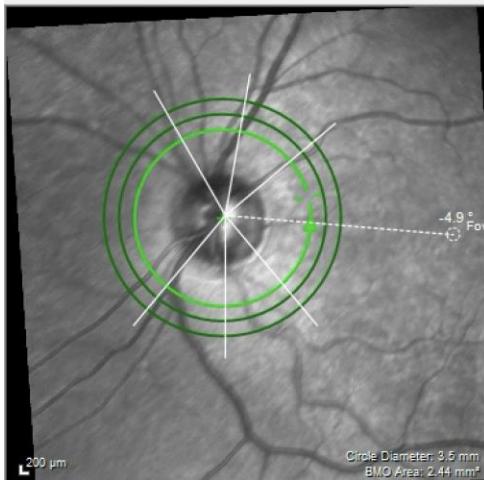
Case 4. MRS NP- 29yo female referred with right thin optic nerve





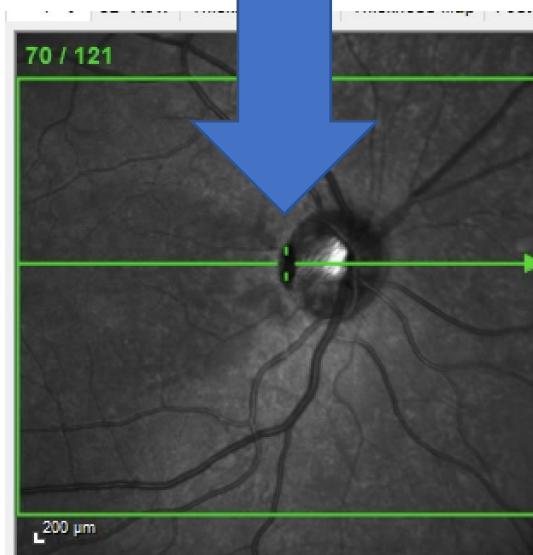


Display | BMO Rim Analysis | BMO Overview | RNFL Thickness | Progression

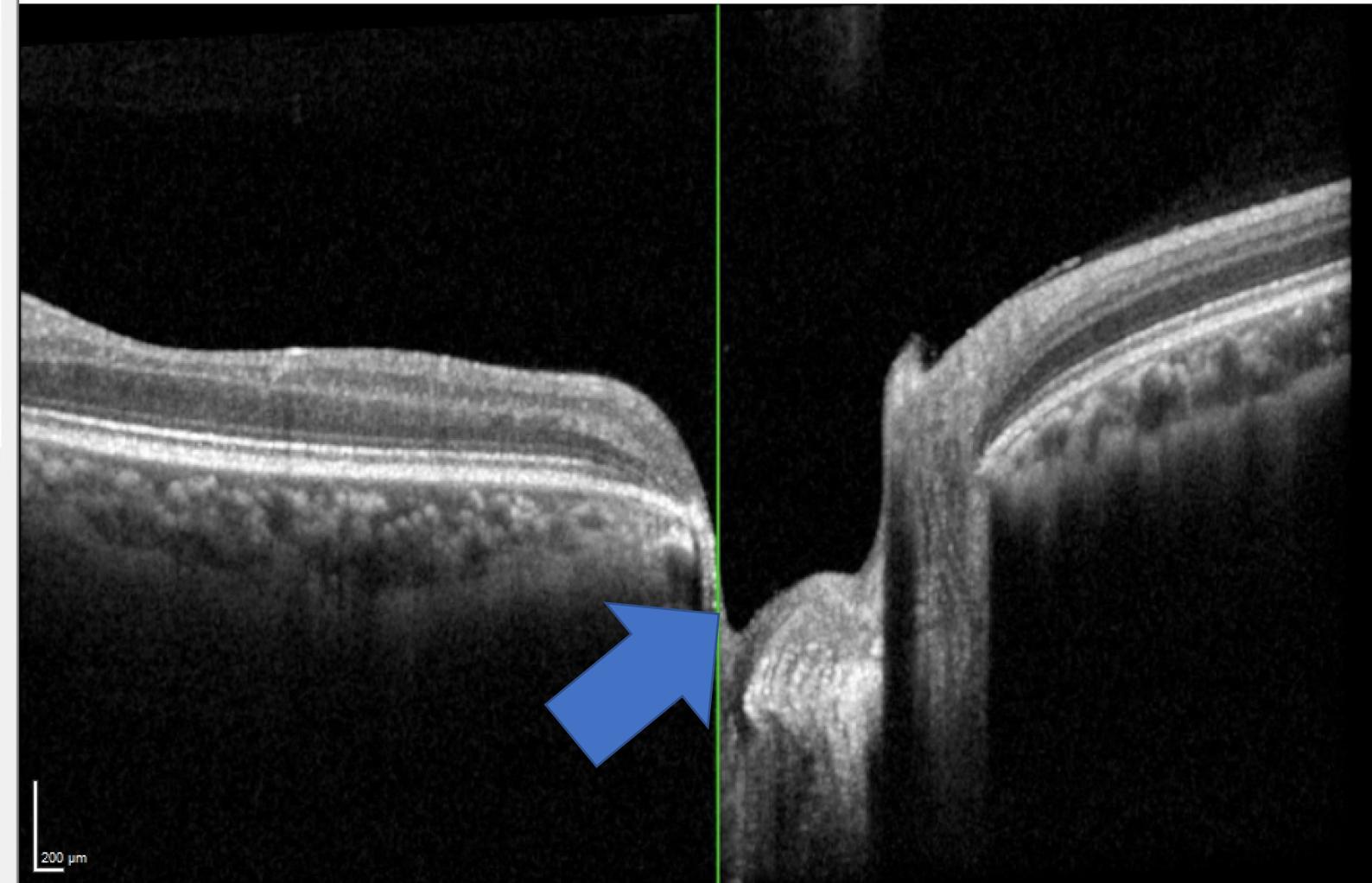


IR: 1536 x 1536 (HR1 30° / 0.5 mm) ΔRT / 0

OCT: 768 x 406 (HS1 ΔRT / 104) O: 25



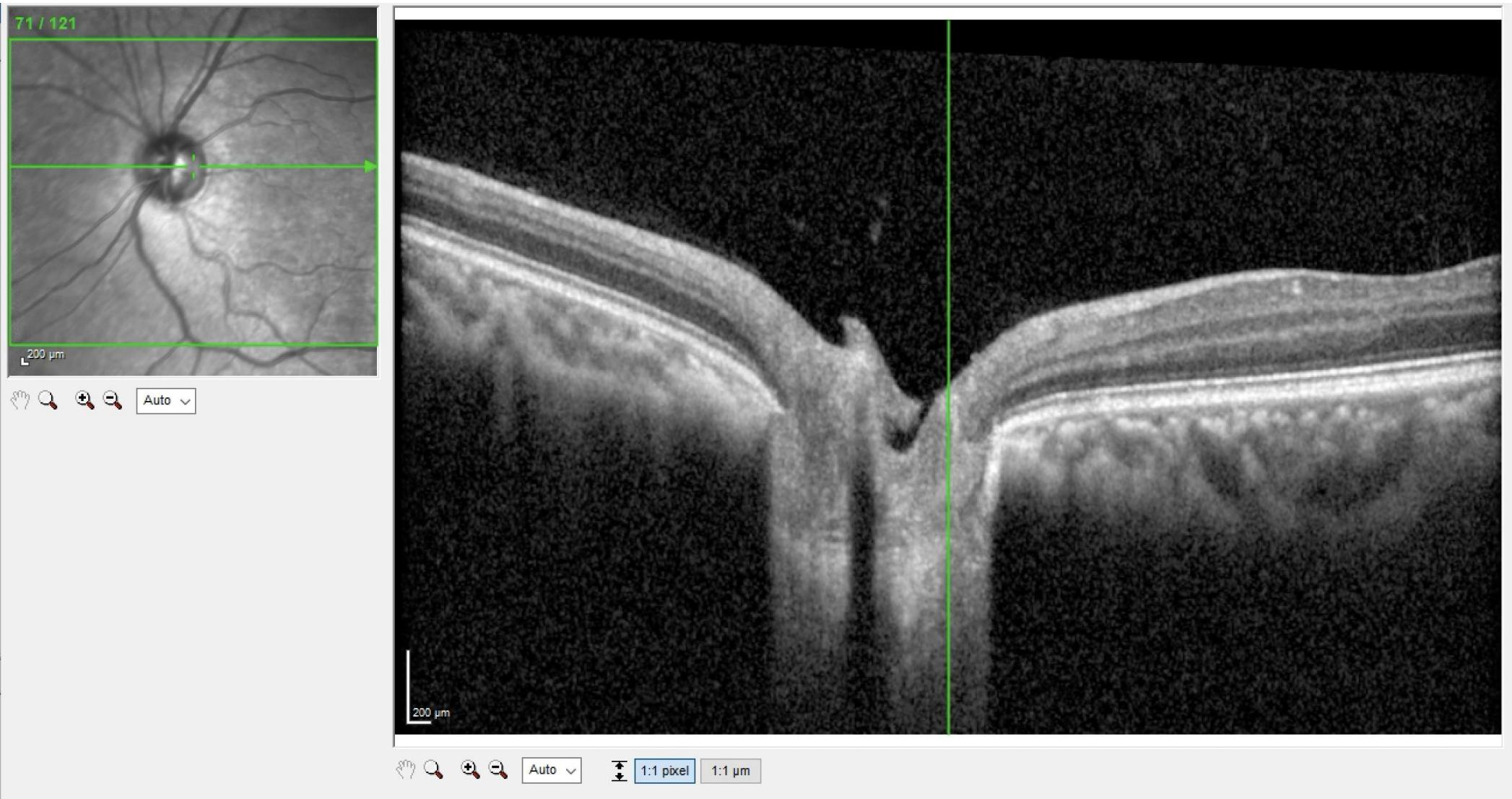
Auto



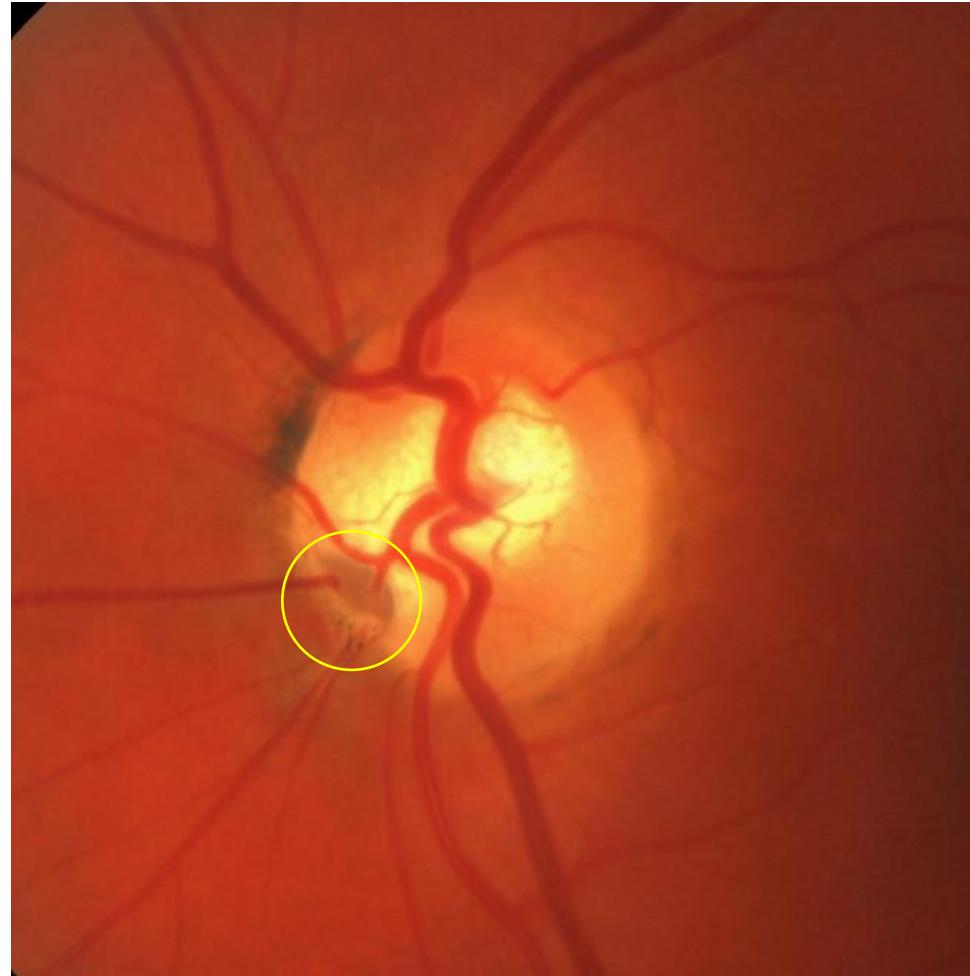
Auto

1:1 pixel

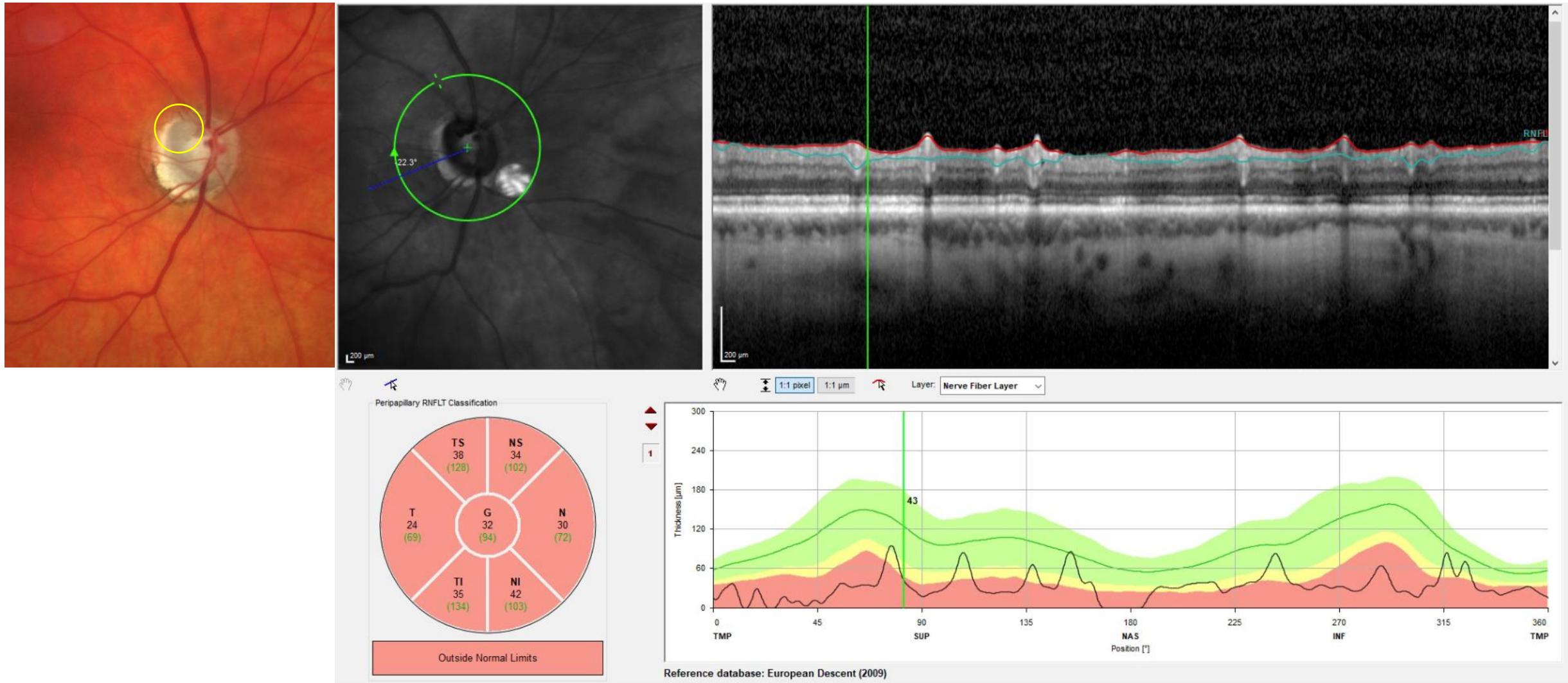
1:1 μm

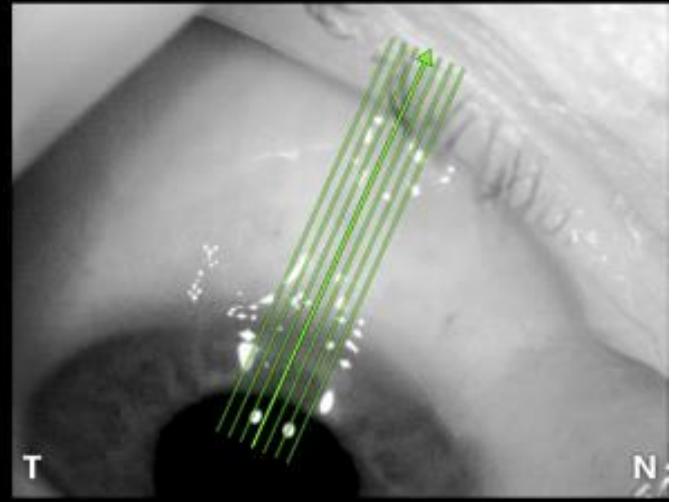
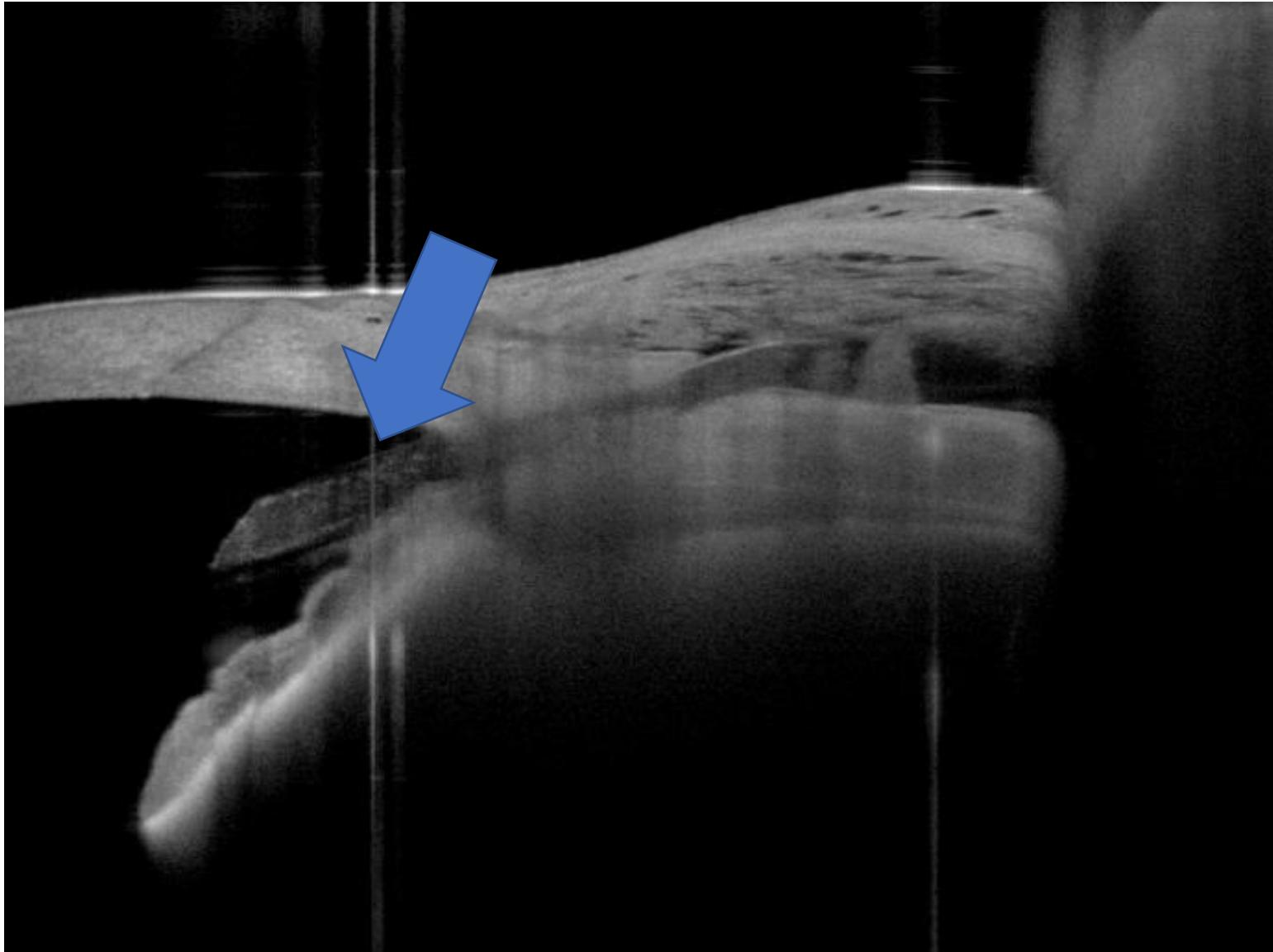


# Diagnosis: Congenital Optic Disc Pit



# Optic Disc Pits Secondary to Advanced Glaucoma





# Clinical Pearls: Optic Disc Pits

- Small, round or oval excavation in the optic nerve head
- Congenital defect from failed fetal fissure closure
- Inferotemporal
- May be Acquired
- May have macular edema, detachment, or schisis.
- 15% bilateral.



BRAD "PITT"

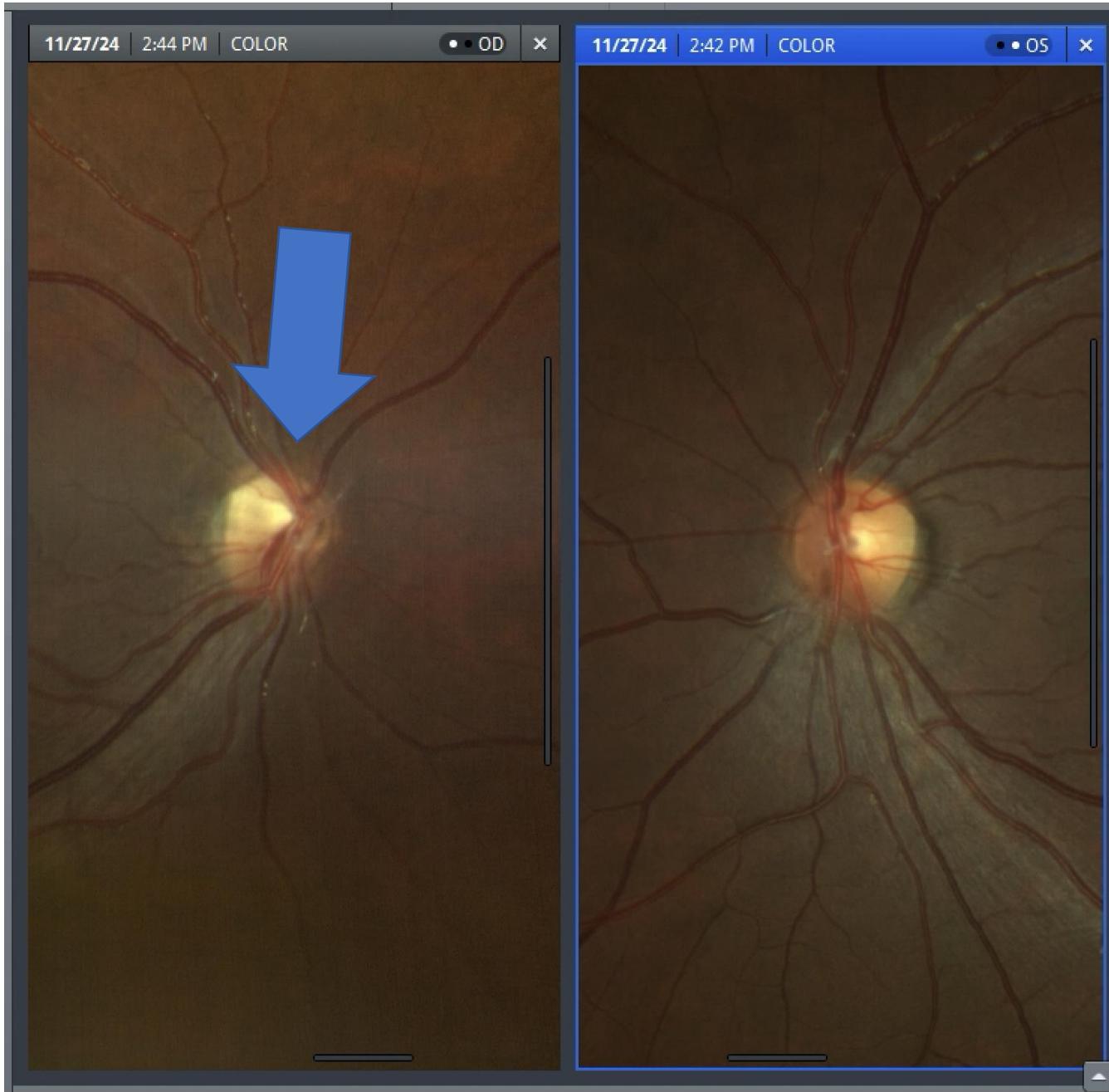
# Case 5. Miss NT - 24yo female

Thank you for seeing Miss NT, who I am referring for further assessment regarding a suspicious right optic nerve appearance with an accompanying right visual field defect.

She reports no known family history of glaucoma.

- Low myope
- “right eye weaker eye”
- IOP 14/16



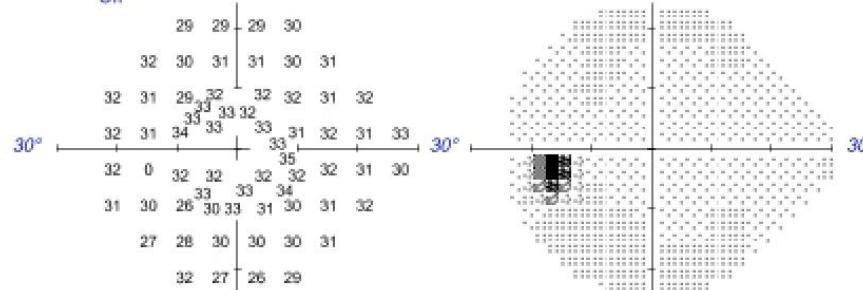


## OS Single Field Analysis

## Central 24-2C Threshold Test

Fixation Monitor: Gaze Monitor  
 Fixation Target: Central  
 Fixation Losses: 0/0  
 False POS Errors: 6%  
 False NEG Errors: Off  
 Test Duration: 02:07  
 Fovea: Off

Stimulus: III, White  
 Background: 31.5 asb  
 Strategy: SITA Faster  
 Pupil Diameter: 24



0	0	0	0	0	-1	-1											
1	-1	-1	-1	-2	-1	1	-2	-1	-1	-2	-1	0					
1	-1	-4	0	-2	-1	-2	-1	-1	-2	-1	-1	0					
0	0	-1	-1	-2	-1	0	3	0	0	-1	-2	-1	3				
0	-2	-2	-2	-3	-2	-1	0	-1	-2	-3	-3	-2	-1	0			
-1	-3	-8	-4	-1	-3	-4	-2	1	-1	-3	-8	-4	-1	-3	-4	-2	1
-5	-5	-3	-3	-3	0	-5	-5	-3	-3	-3	-1	-5	-5	-2			

GHT: Outside Normal Limits

VFI24-2C: 98%  
 MD24-2C: -1.66 dB P < 10%  
 PSD24-2C: 1.72 dB P < 10%

Total Deviation

Pattern Deviation

- :: P < 5%
- ☒ P < 2%
- ☒ P < 1%
- P < 0.5%

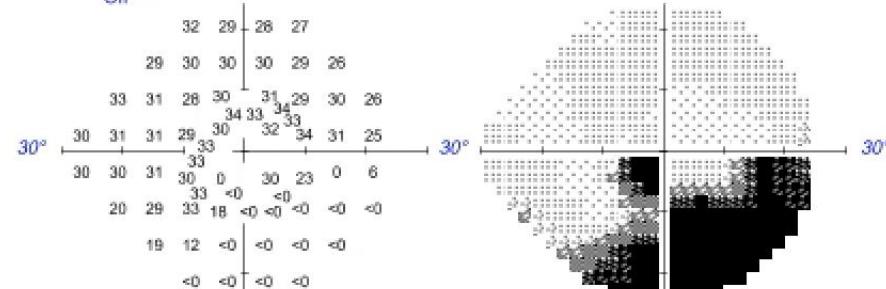


## OD Single Field Analysis

## Central 24-2C Threshold Test

Fixation Monitor: Gaze Monitor  
 Fixation Target: Central  
 Fixation Losses: 0/0  
 False POS Errors: 3%  
 False NEG Errors: Off  
 Test Duration: 04:01  
 Fovea: Off

Stimulus: III, White  
 Background: 31.5 asb  
 Strategy: SITA Faster  
 Pupil Diameter: 24



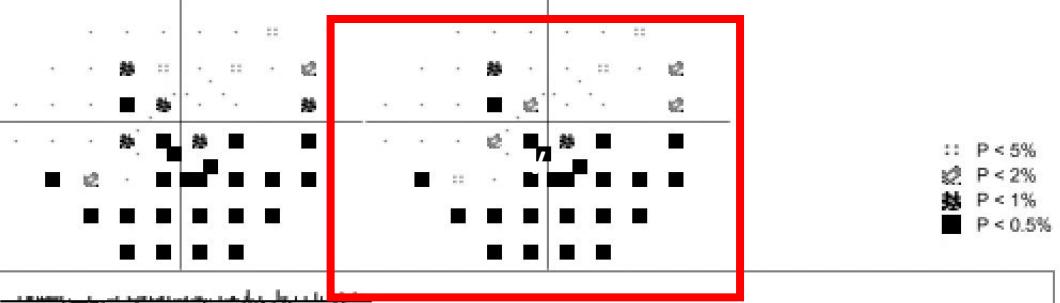
2	0	-2	-2	2	0	-1	-2									
-2	-2	-2	-2	-3	-5	-2	-2	-2	-2	-5						
2	-2	-5	-3	-3	-4	-2	-6	2	-2	-4	-3	-2	-1	-4	-2	-6
1	-1	-2	-5	-4	-1	0	-6	1	0	-2	-5	-1	-1	-2	0	-6
0	-2	-2	-4	-35	-5	-11	-26	0	-2	-2	-4	-34	-5	-10	-26	

GHT: Outside Normal Limits

VFI24-2C: 69%  
 MD24-2C: -11.26 dB P < 0.5%  
 PSD24-2C: 14.46 dB P < 0.5%

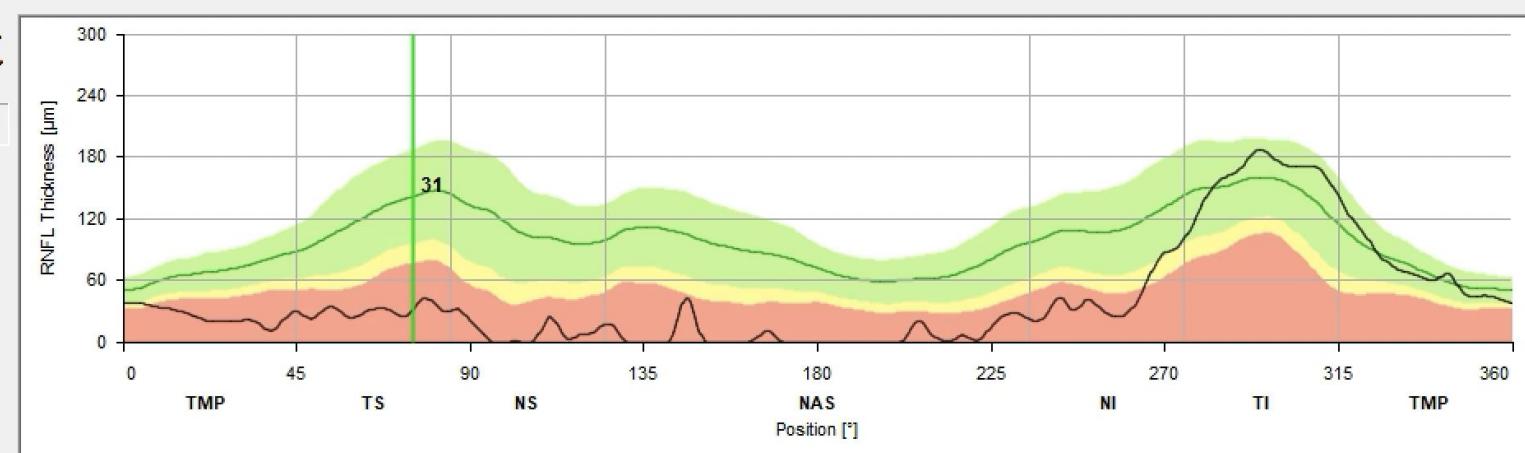
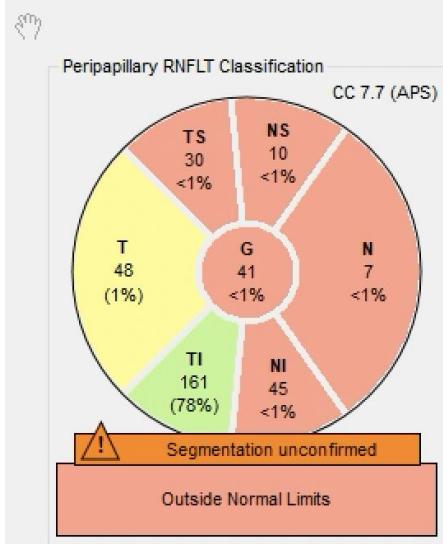
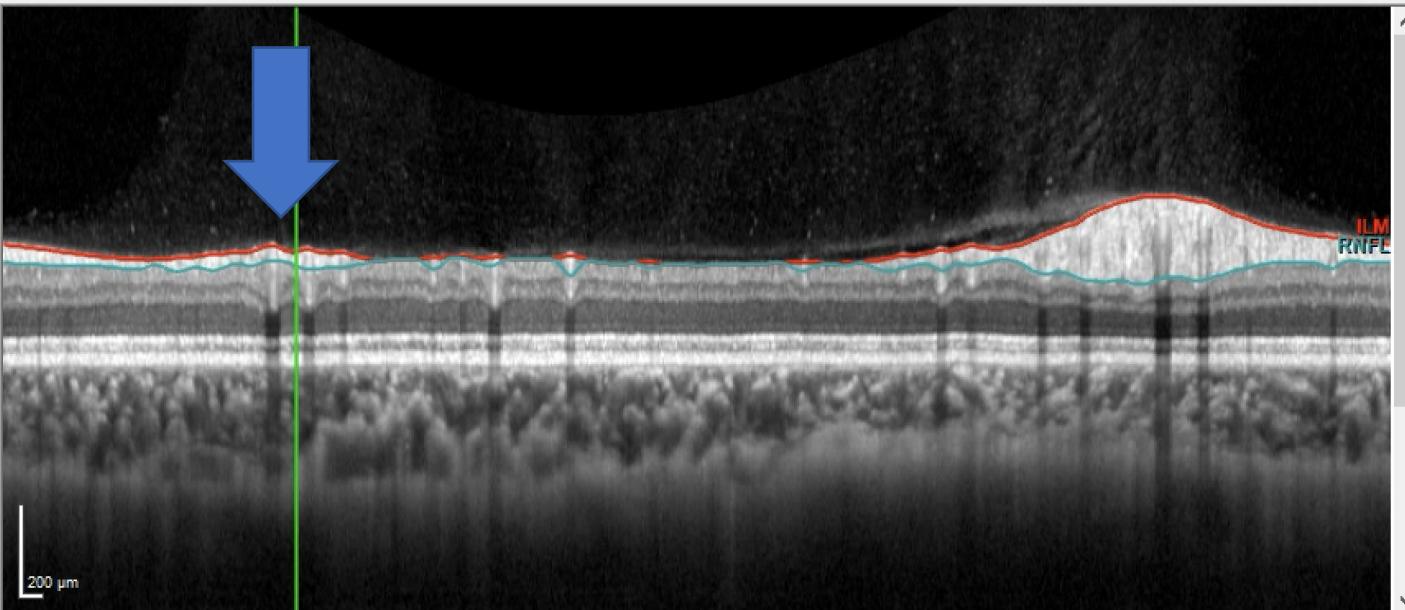
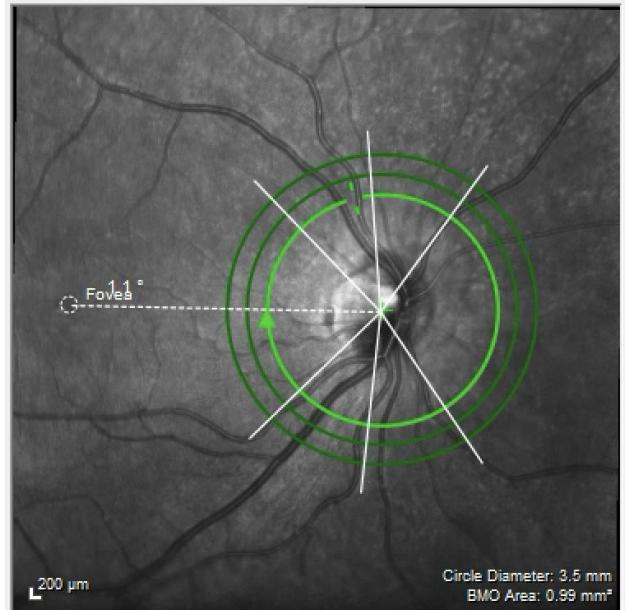
Total Deviation

Pattern Deviation



- :: P < 5%
- ☒ P < 2%
- ☒ P < 1%
- P < 0.5%







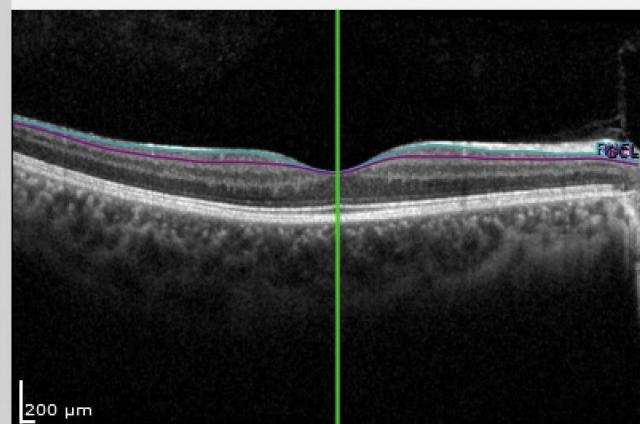
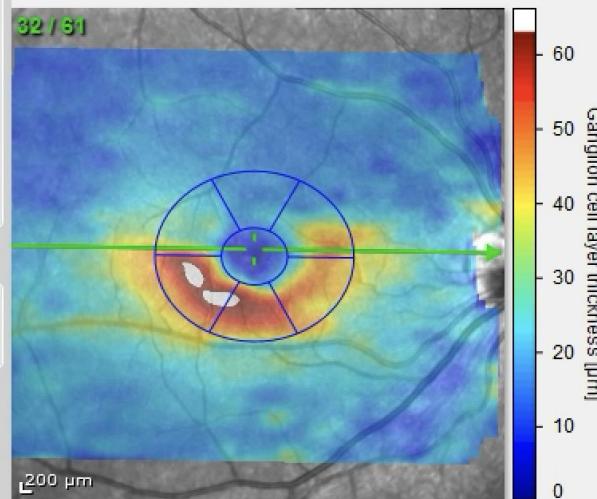
Default slabs

- Retina
- RNFL
- GCL
- IPL

Overlay:

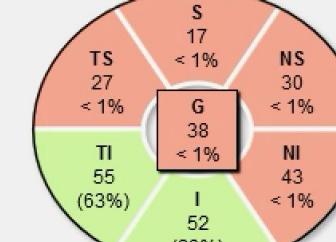
Segmentation

- Edit



Auto

## Macular ganglion cell layer classification



Outside normal limits

Within normal limits (&gt; 5%)

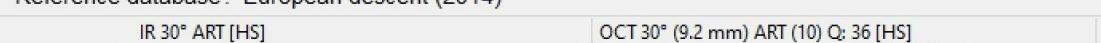
Borderline (&lt; 5%)

Outside normal limits (&lt; 1%)

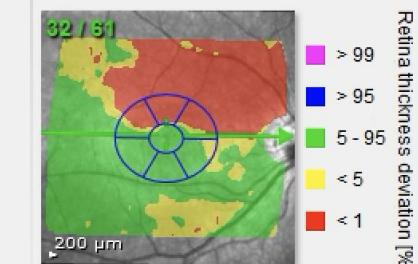
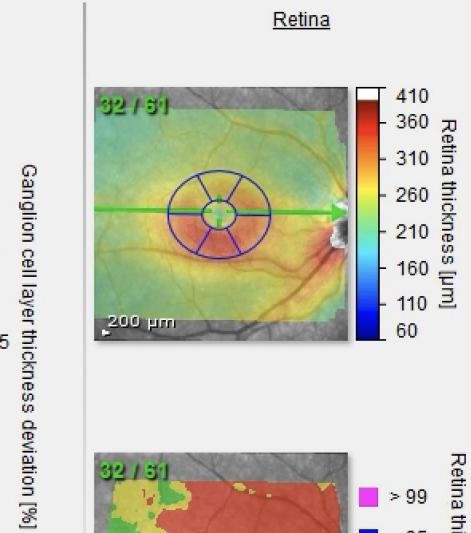
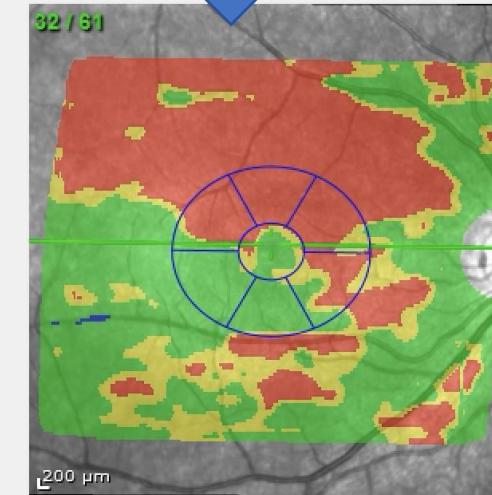
Reference database: European descent (2014)

IR 30° ART [HS]

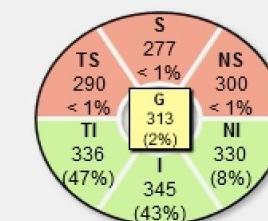
OCT 30° (9.2 mm) ART (10) Q: 36 [HS]



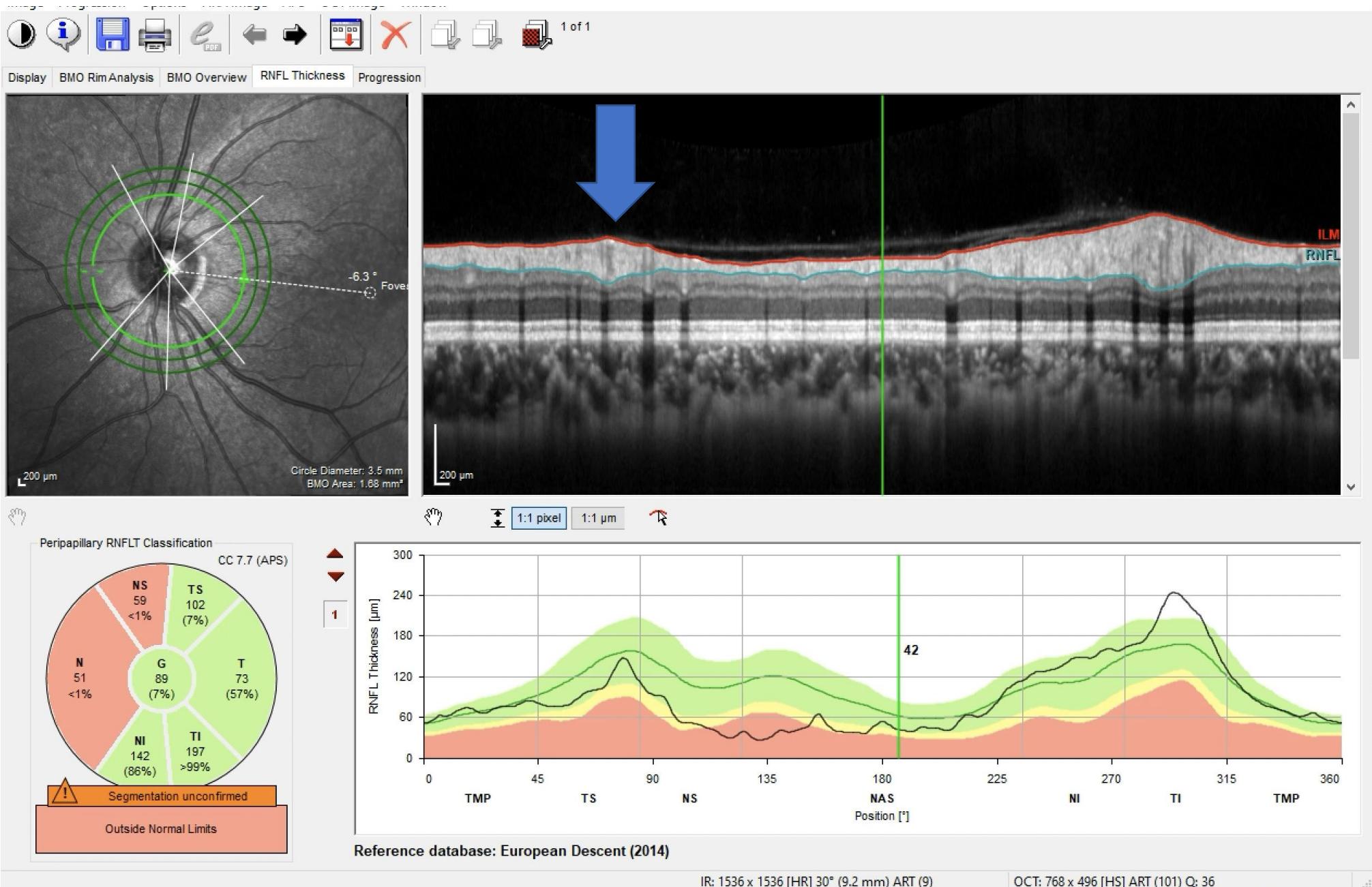
GCL

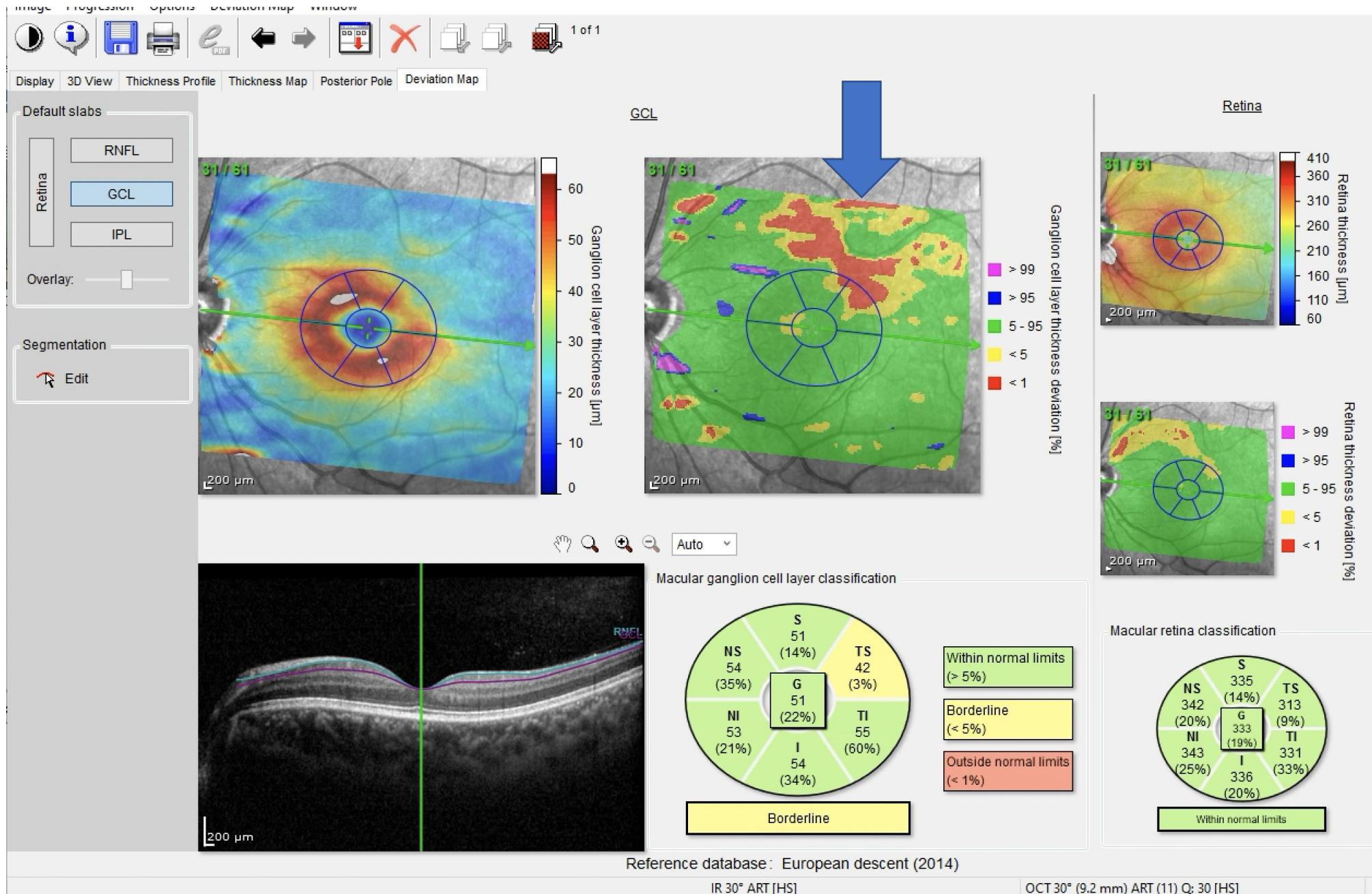


## Macular retina classification



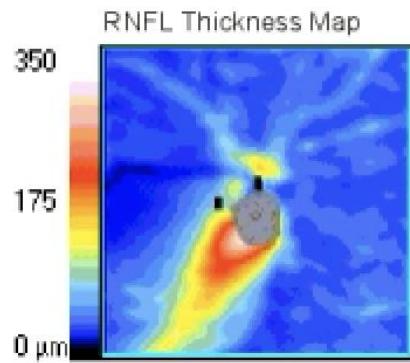
Outside normal limits



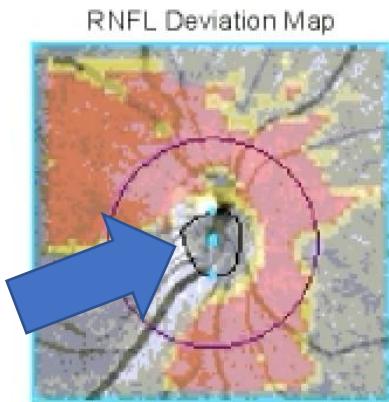
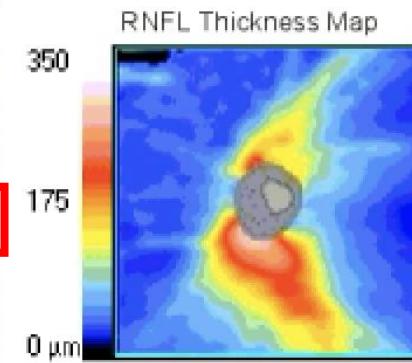


# ONH and RNFL OU Analysis:Optic Disc Cube 200x200

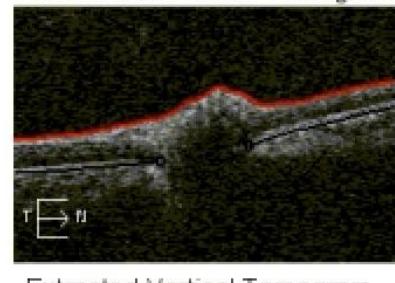
OD ● ● OS



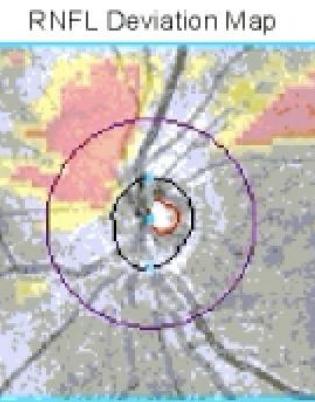
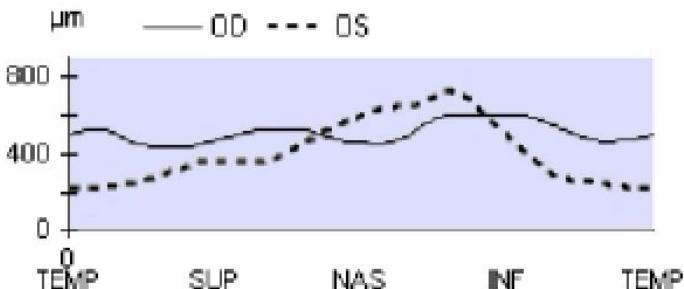
	OD	OS
Average RNFL Thickness	52 $\mu\text{m}$	83 $\mu\text{m}$
RNFL Symmetry	43%	
Rim Area	0.83 $\text{mm}^2$	1.31 $\text{mm}^2$
Disc Area	0.83 $\text{mm}^2$	1.55 $\text{mm}^2$
Average C/D Ratio	0.10	0.38
Vertical C/D Ratio	0.08	0.40
Cup Volume	0.000 $\text{mm}^3$	0.060 $\text{mm}^3$



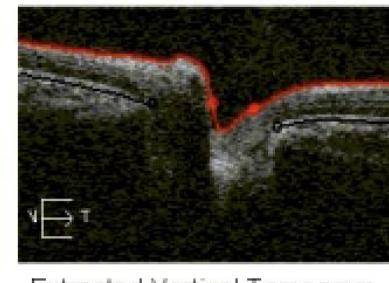
Disc Center(-0.03,-0.30)mm  
Extracted Horizontal Tomogram



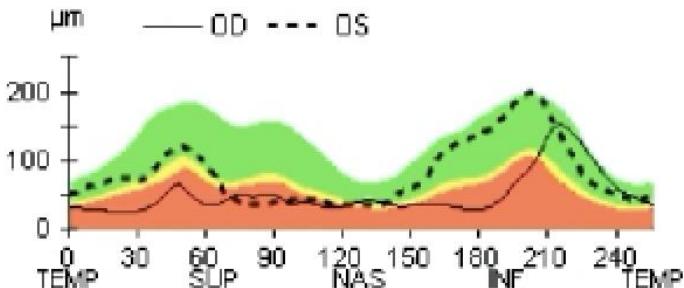
## Neuro-retinal Rim Thickness



Disc Center(-0.09,0.03)mm  
Extracted Horizontal Tomogram



## RNFL Thickness



# Clinical Pearls: Superior Segmental Optic Nerve Hypoplasia (SSON)

**Distinguished from glaucoma by typical pattern:**

- Thinning of the superior retinal nerve fiber layer (RNFL).
- Superior entrance of the central retinal artery.
- Pallor of the superior optic disc.
- Superior peripapillary scleral halo.

**Associations:**

- Strong link to maternal diabetes.
- Other risk factors: Female sex, short gestation, low birth weight.

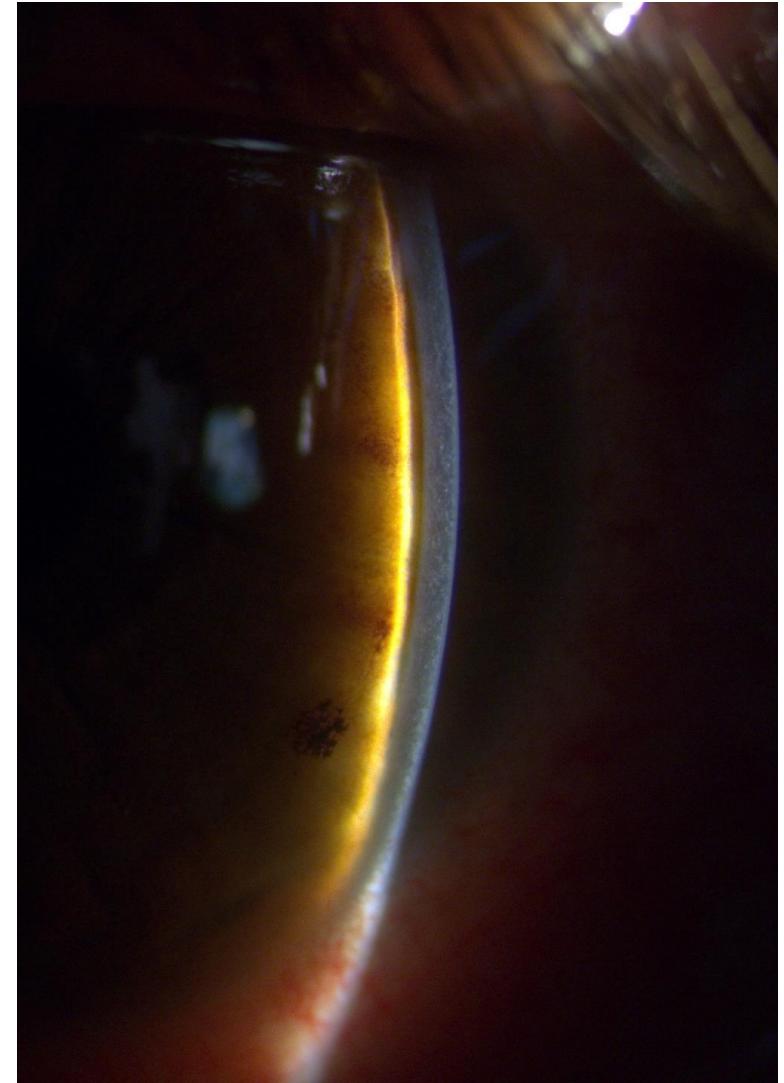


# Case 6. Mrs EC – 52yo female

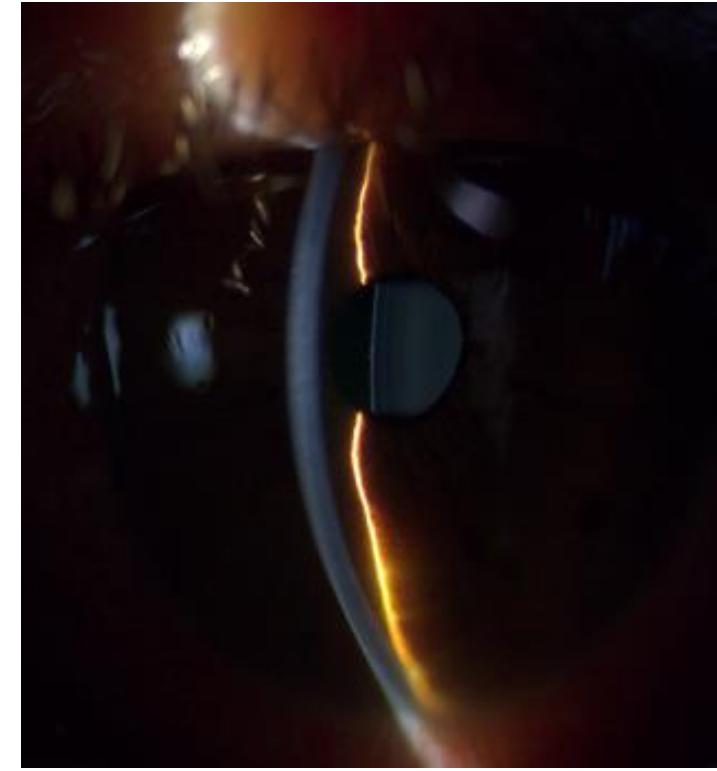
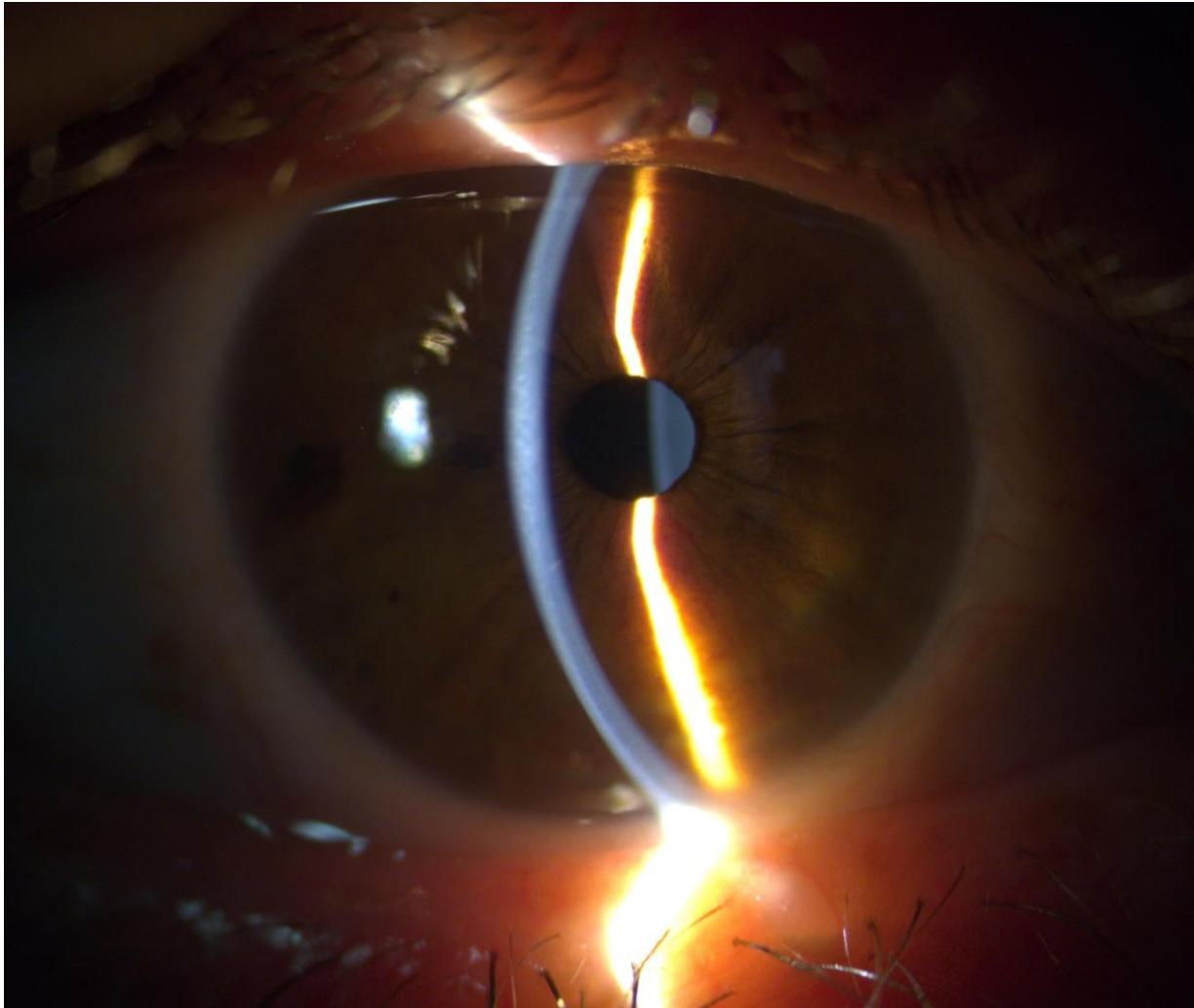
ED presentation with acute angle closure

- Methamphetamine user – fell asleep ‘on eye’ ? Woke up with acute vision loss
- VA R) 6/6 L) 6/12
- IOP 10/**37**
- Left shallow angles noted – commenced on timolol, brinzolamide and pilocarpine QID. YAG PI Performed.

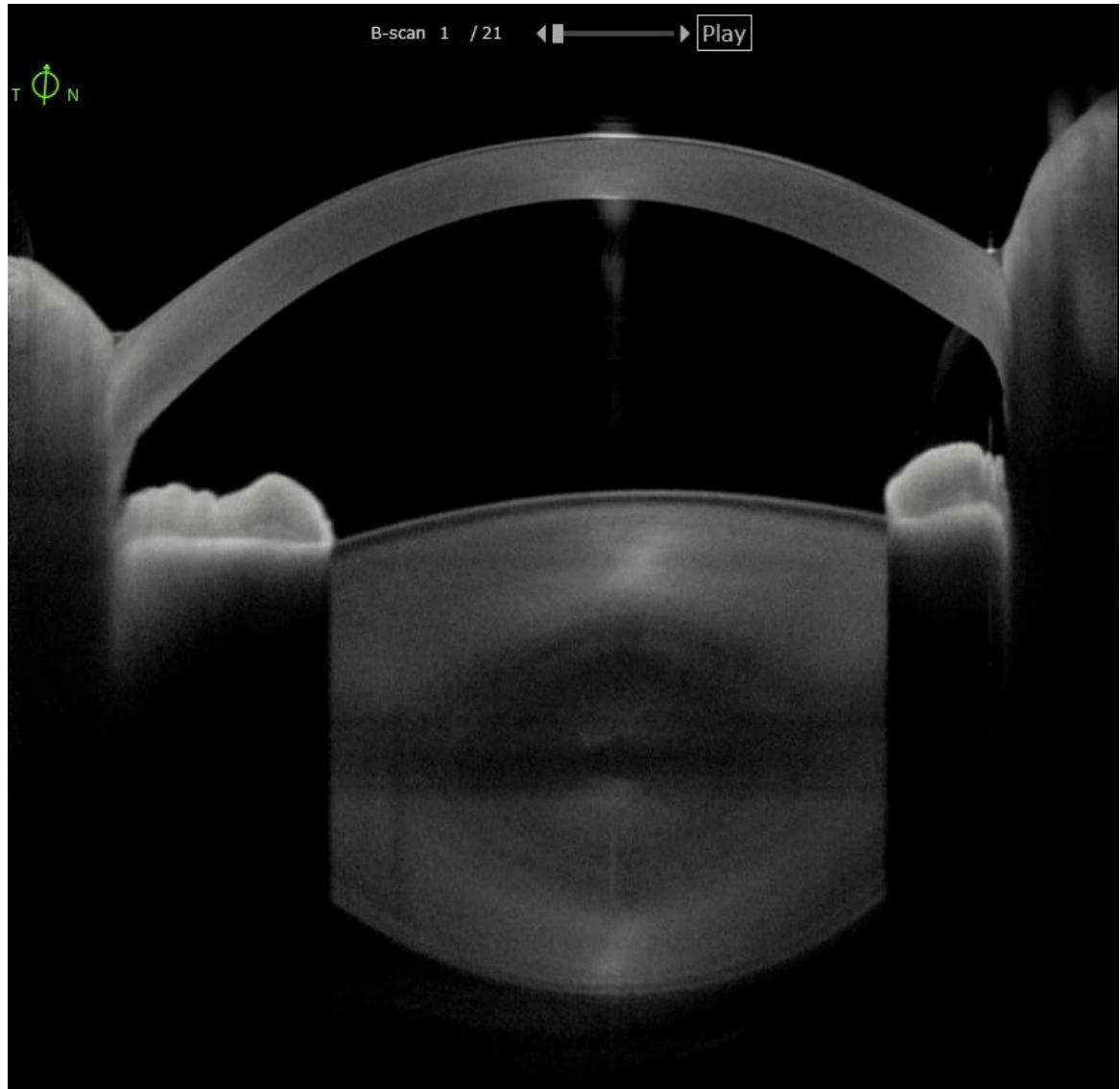
OS



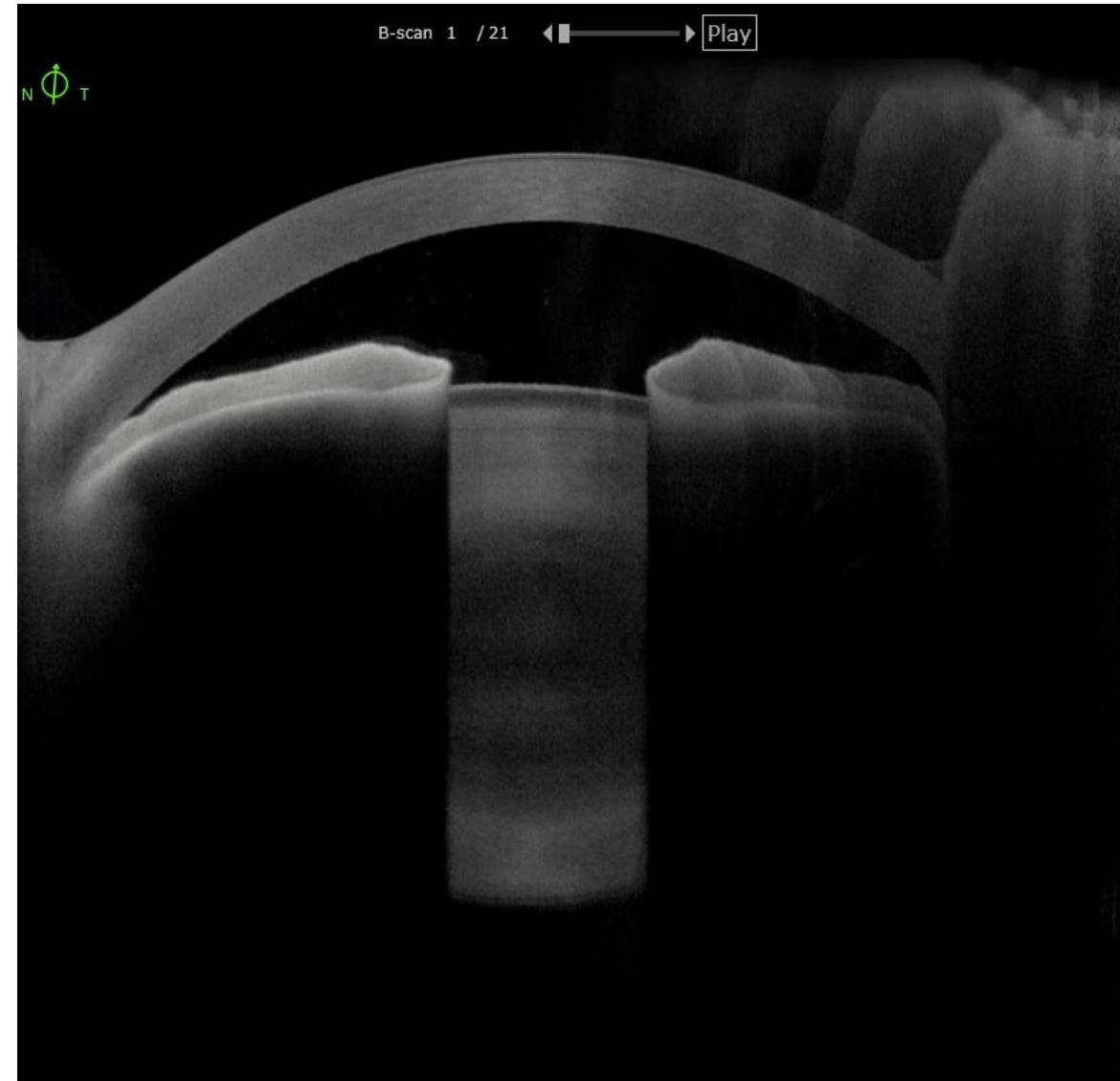
OD

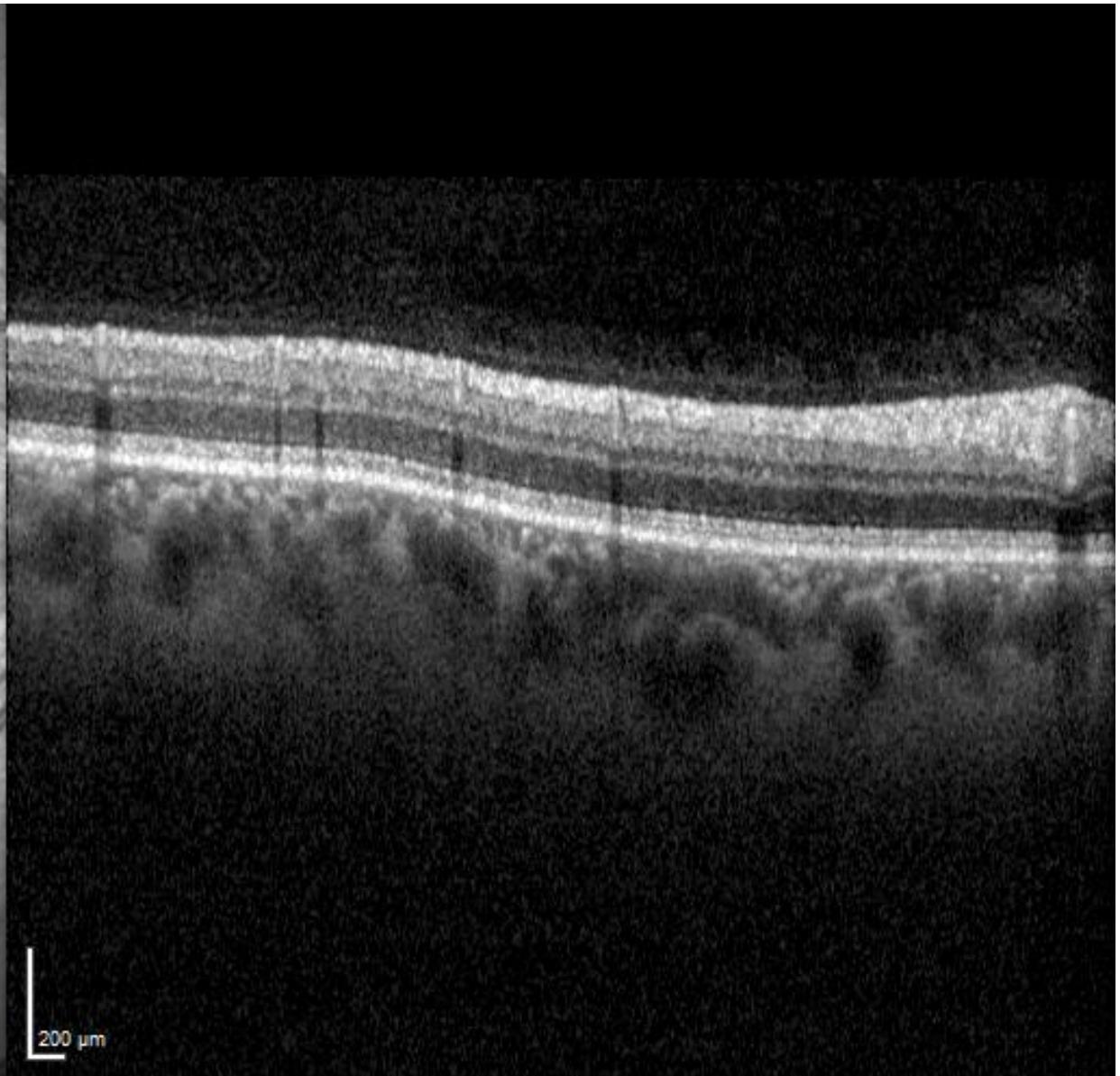
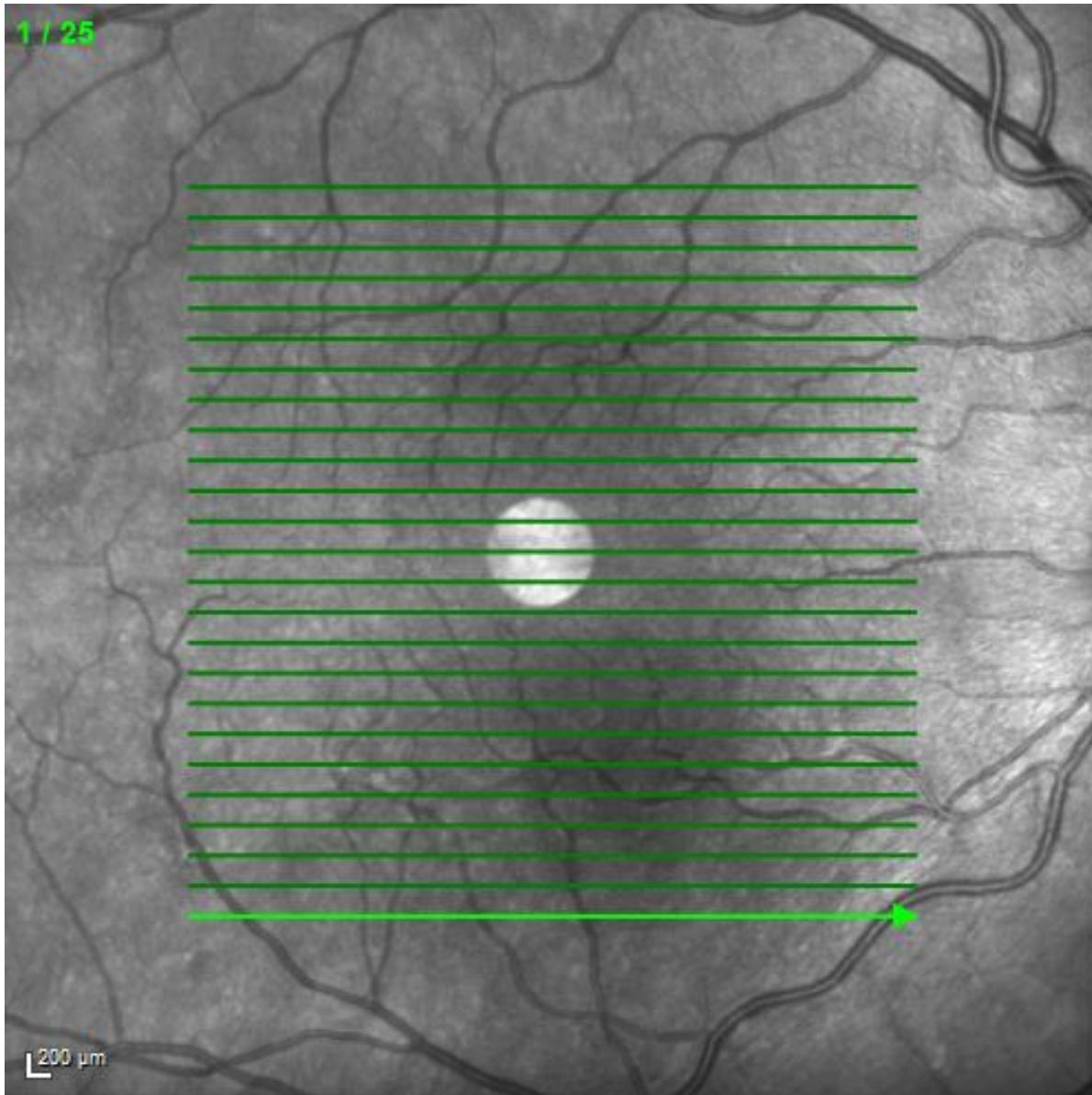


OD



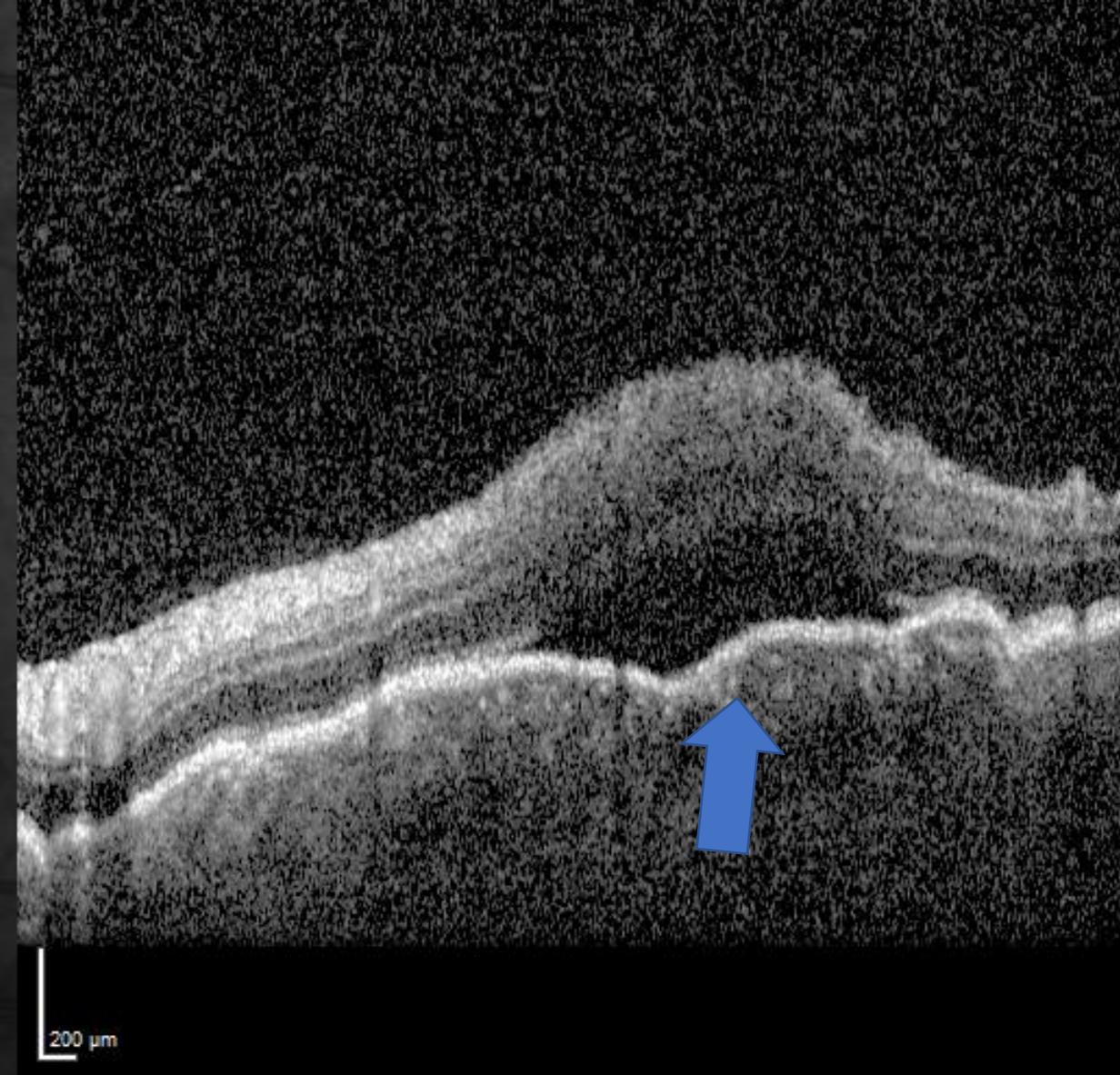
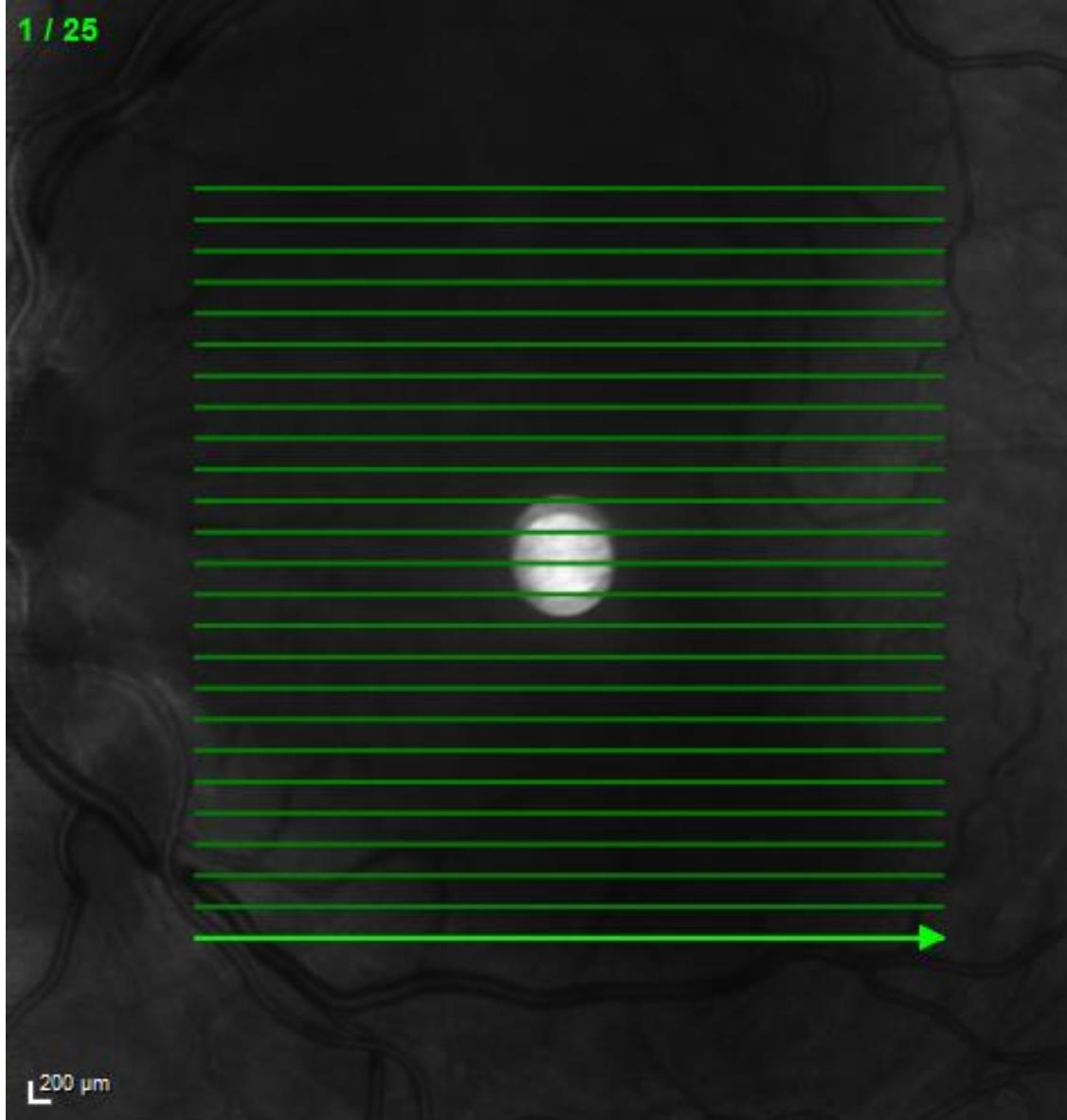
OS





04/12/2024, OD

IR&OCT 30° ART [HS] ART(10) Q: 32



04/12/2024, OS

IR&OCT 30° ART [HS] ART(10) Q: 21

FA OptomapPlus

Dec 4, 2024 2:06 PM

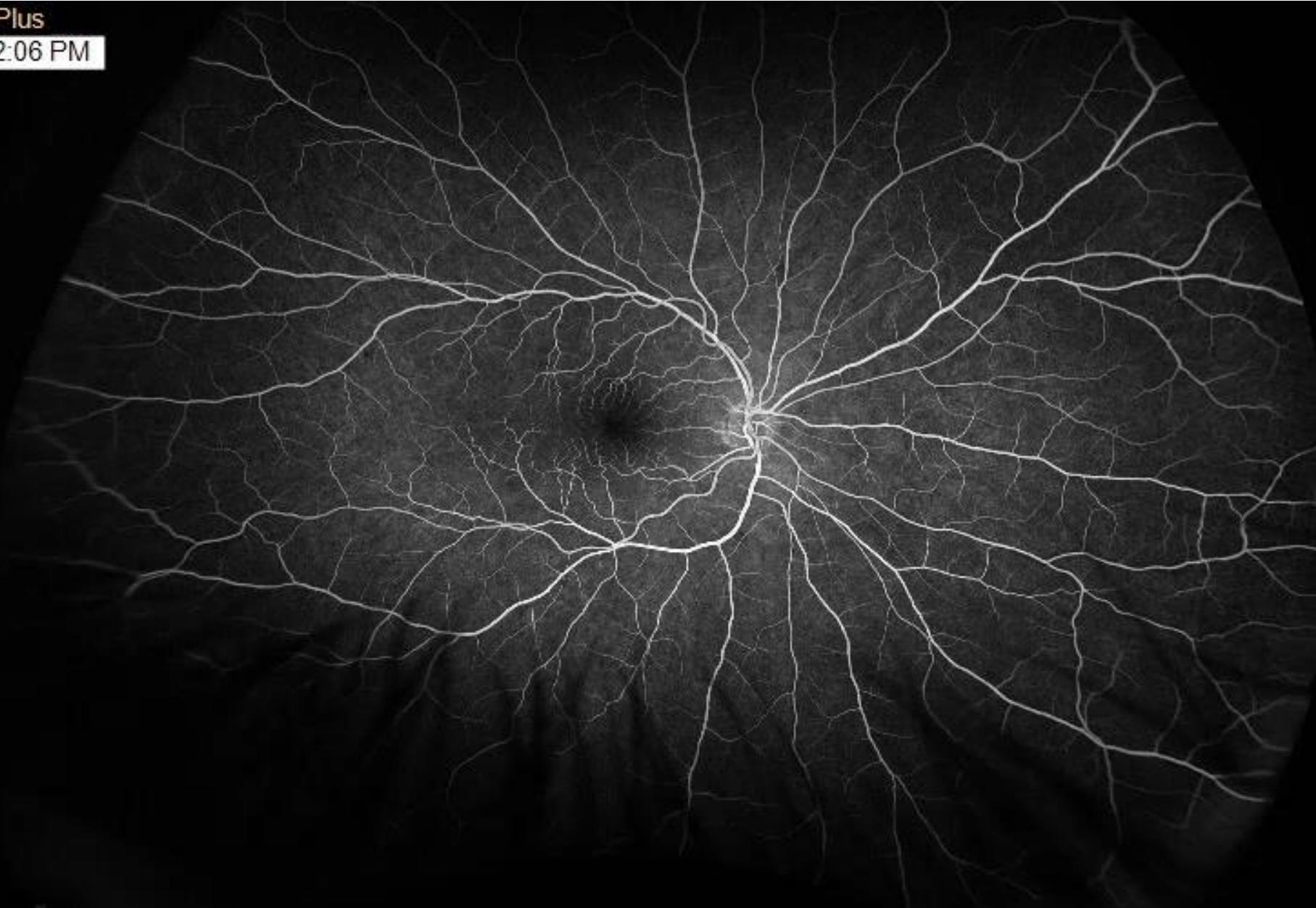
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4000

Timer: 00:56:652

PRIOR



FA OptomapPlus

Dec 4, 2024 2:05 PM

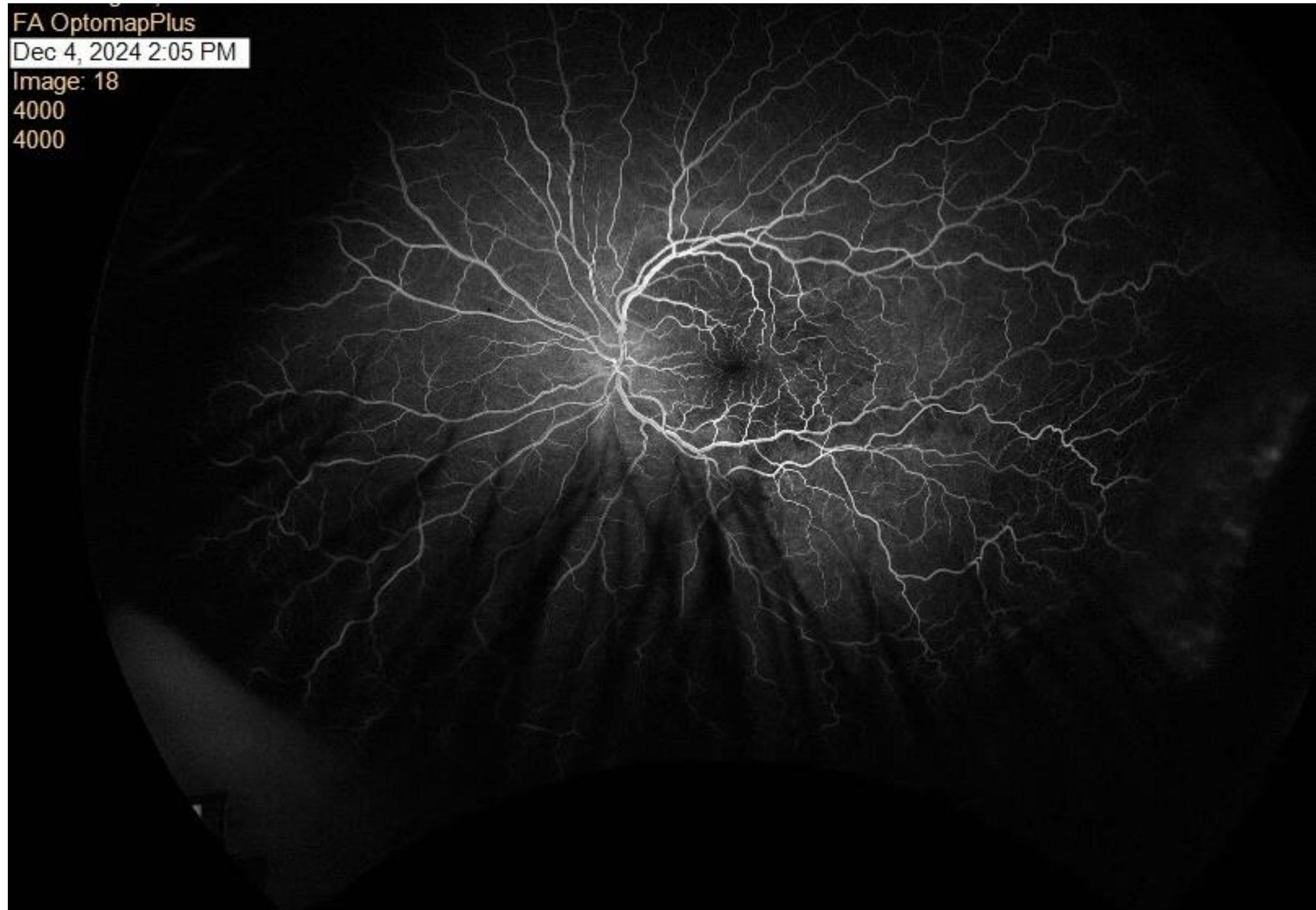
Image: 18

4000

4000

Timer: 00:32:527

PRIOR





4000  
4000



# Diagnosis?

## **Methamphetamine Scleritis and Secondary Angle Closure**

The vasoconstrictive effect of methamphetamine interferes with ocular perfusion, causing vasculitis, which may manifest as:

- Conjunctivitis
- Episcleritis
- **Scleritis** (Isaak and Liesegang, 1983; Hazin et al., 2009).

L7204814

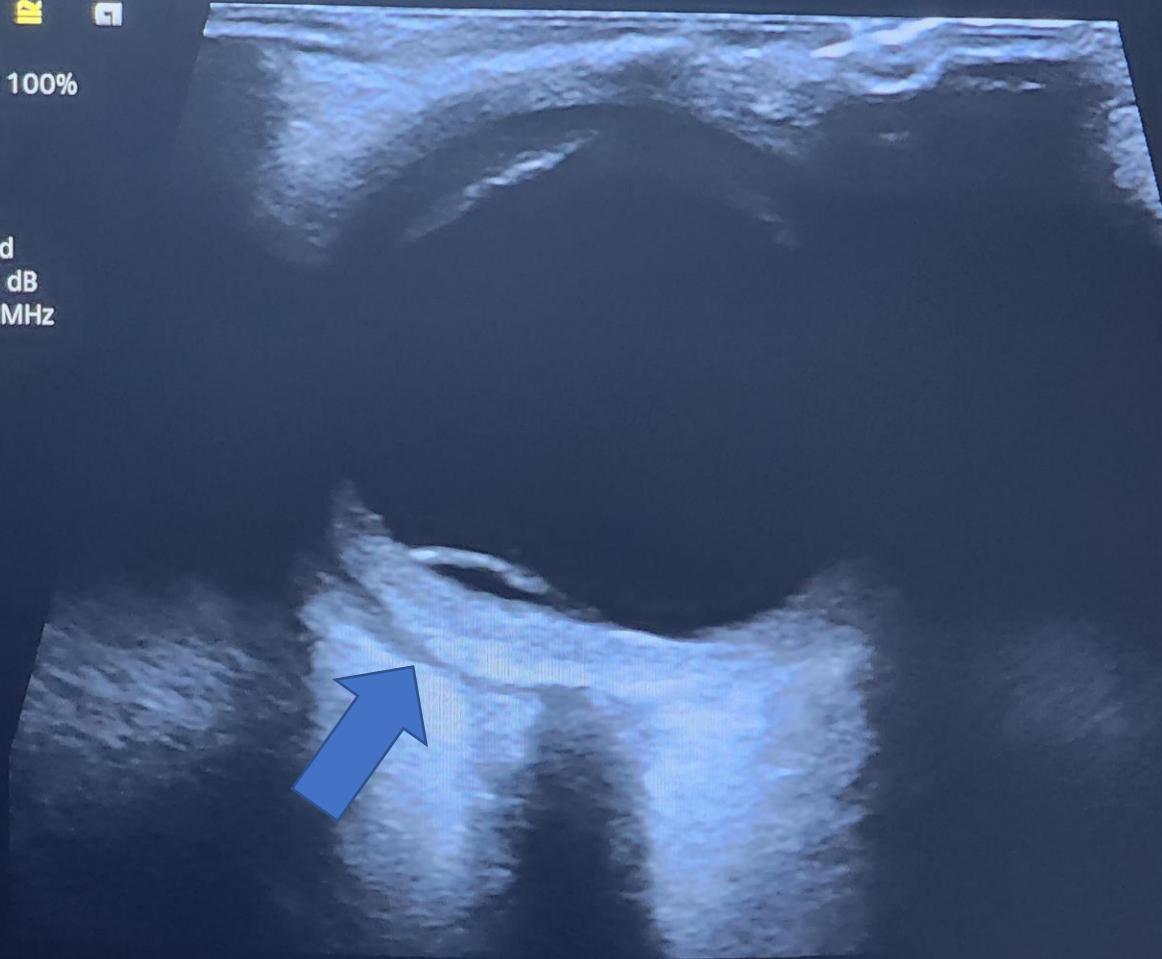
19/09/1972 O

Fremantle Hospital Eye Clinic

04/12/2024 11:29:02



16L4  
The Eye  
Tx Power 100%  
MI 1.10  
TIS 0.1  
TIB 0.1  
ASC 1  
DTCE Med  
Dyn R 70 dB  
THI 12.3 MHz  
0 dB  
40 fps



3.5 cm\*

Fr 102

UD 1 Full Size  
UD 2 Text A  
UD 3 Text B



Print

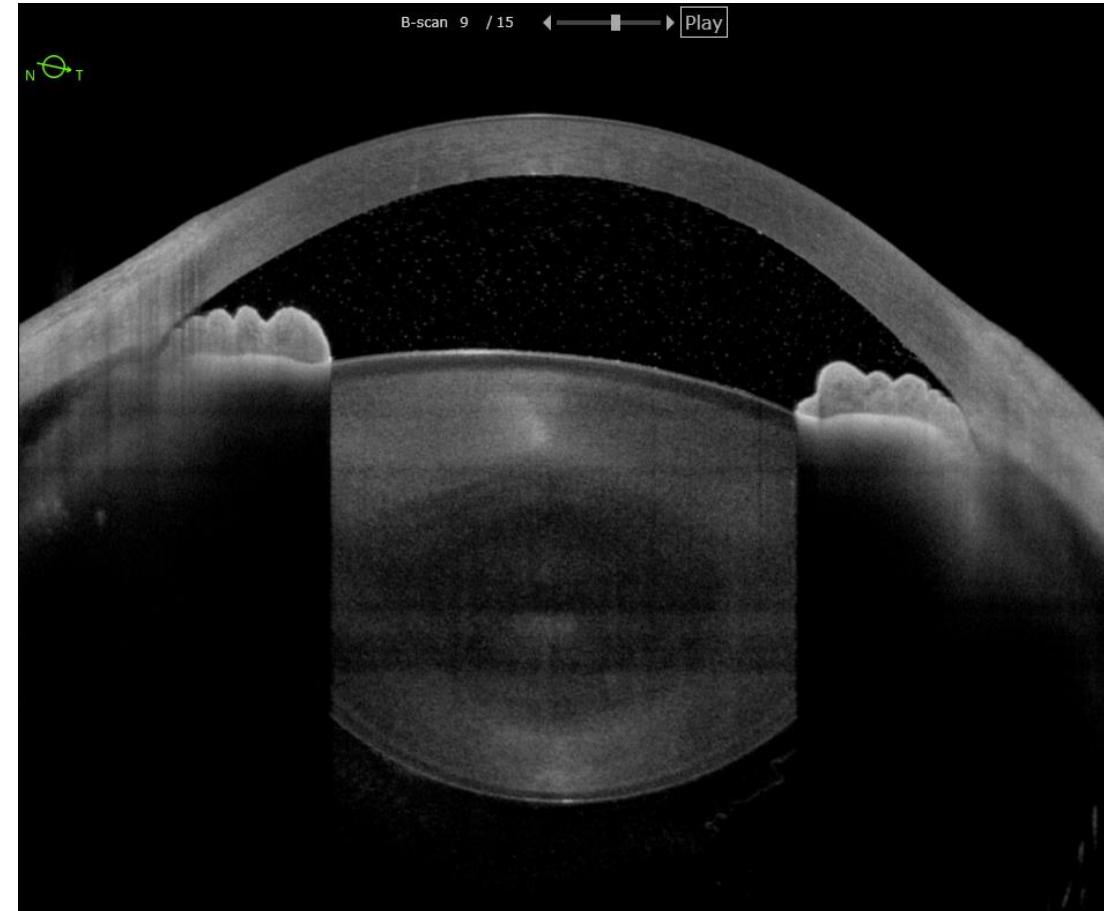
# Management

- Continued:
  - Timolol BD
  - Brinzolamide BD
  - Diamox 250mg QID (reduced to TDS D2)
- Stopped:
  - Pilocarpine QID
  - MXD QID
- Admission:
  - IVMP 1g 3/7
  - **Atropine BD**
  - PF q1h day
- Uveitis screening bloods
  - FBC, UEC, LFT
  - ACE, HLA-B27
  - HIV, Hep B & C
  - TB, Syphilis
  - ANA, ENA, ANCA, RF, anti-CCP, anti-dsDNA
- HRCT

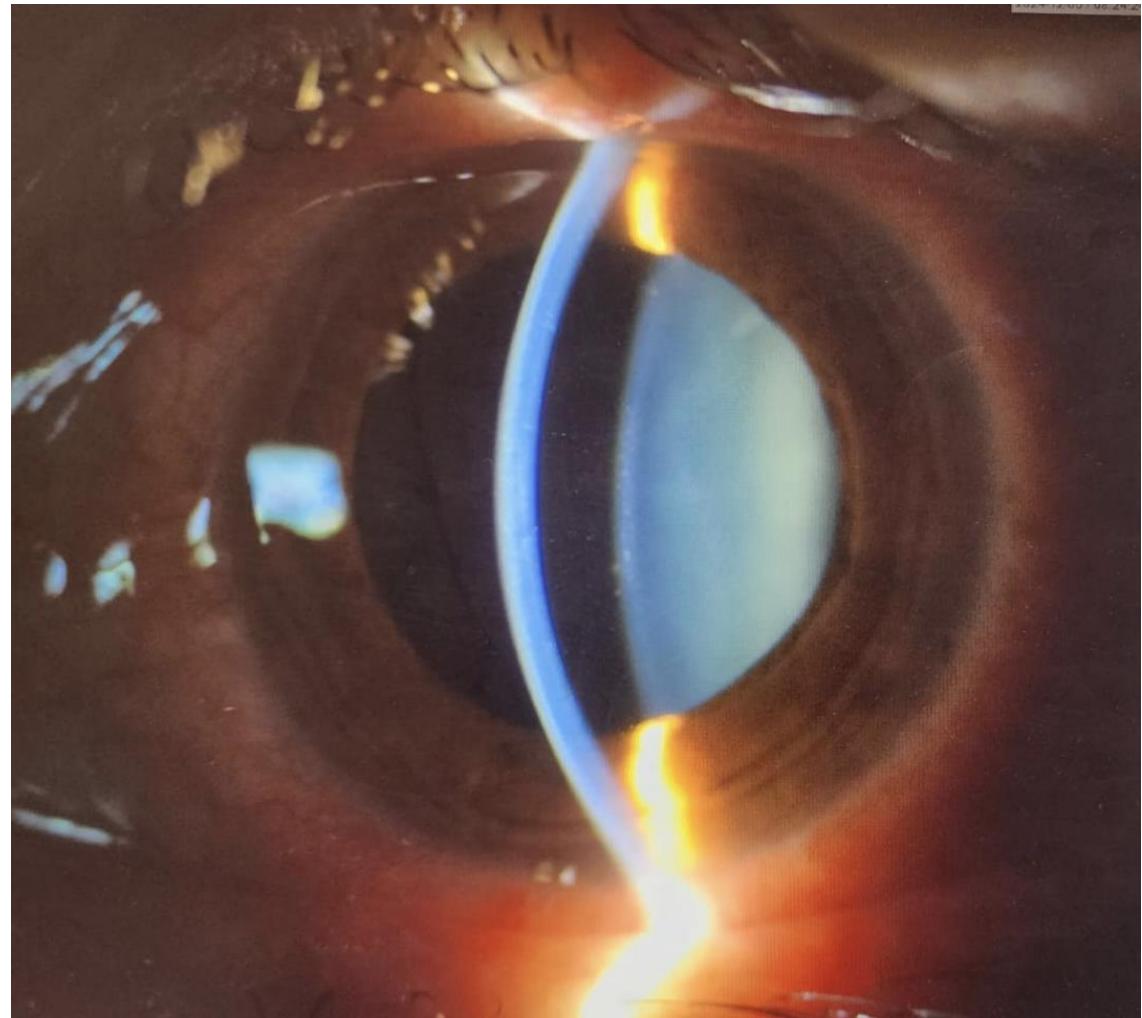
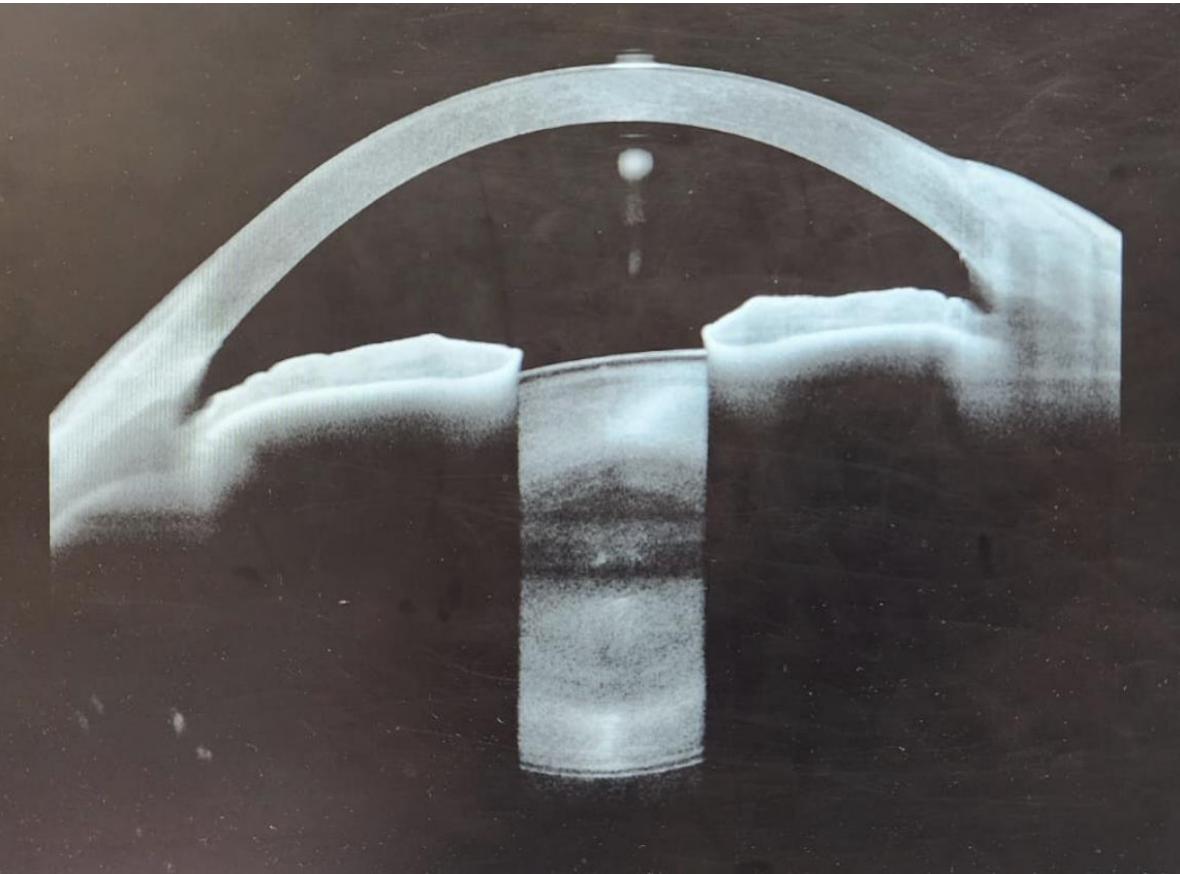
# Day 1



# Day 2

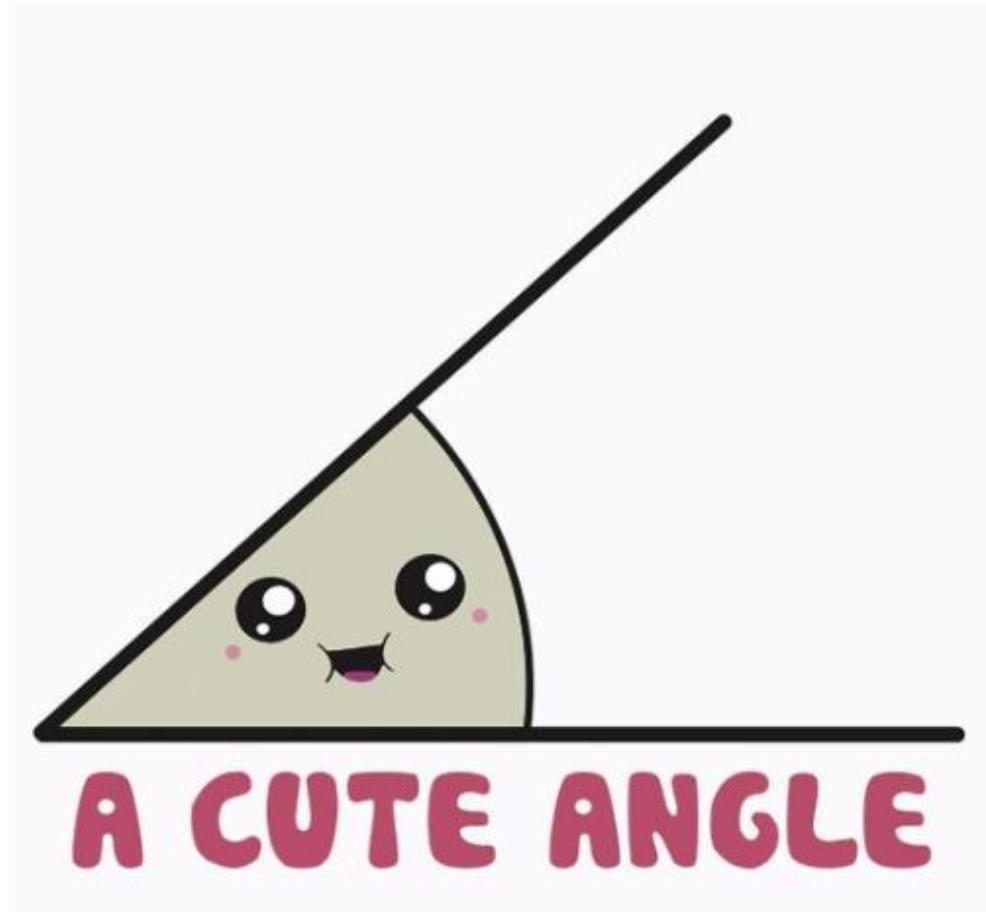


# Day 3



# Clinical Pearls: Angle Closure Masquerades

- Always check other eye!
- Anatomical predisposition
- Rule out recent or newly initiated medications (especially sulfa-derived)
- Angle closure may stem from ciliary body swelling or effusion
  - look at the posterior segment



# Summary of Glaucoma Masquerades

A Systematic Approach is key:

- **Diagnosis of Exclusion:** Rule out other causes first!
- **Masquerades Present Earlier:** Congenital anomalies often present at a younger age
- **Central Vision:** Early *severe* central vision loss is less likely to be glaucoma.
- **RNFL vs. Rim Discrepancy:** Investigate any mismatches
- **Neuroimaging Helpful:** Identify masquerades
- **Genetic Risk Stratification:** May help risk stratify glaucoma suspects

# Questions?

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