

The Role of Midperipheral Retinal Non-perfusion in Diabetic Macular Edema.

Amro Omari

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UMMS Capstone for Impact

Branch: Procedures Based Care

Advisor: Clifford Craig

Project Summary

I will be presenting a research project that I was heavily involved in during my internship at Kellogg Eye Center. Diabetic macular edema (DME) is the most common visual complication of diabetes where the macula, the center of the retina, becomes swollen. In this study, we are looking at how ischemia in the mid-peripheral retina affects severity and outcomes in DME.

Action Items/Outcome

We took subjects with DME and controls and measured their blood supply in the peripheral retina using ultra-wide fluorescein angiography. We then measured their visual functioning using visual acuity, visual fields, and contrast sensitivity. We found that subjects with a worse blood supply in the peripheral retina have had worse visual functioning than those with better perfusion.

Conclusion/Reflection

Midperipheral non-perfusion is associated with worse visual functioning in eyes with DME. Understanding the role of the midperipheral retina may lead to better treatments and improve outcomes.