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## Presentation Abstract

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Abstract Title: **Cataract Evaluation With an Objective Scattering Index Based on Double-Pass Image Analysis**

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**Abstract Body:** **Purpose:** To evaluate the amount of intraocular scattering in cataract patients by using the Objective Scatter Index (OSI) provided by a double-pass instrument. We establish a quantitative comparison between this objective evaluation and some subjective procedures commonly employed to evaluate cataracts such as visual acuity (VA) and slit-lamp examination.

**Methods:** We selected a group of patients in different levels of cataract development from early stages to mature levels. A control group of young normal eyes was also evaluated with the same procedure. The subjective procedure consists in a preliminary exam of the VA with and without correction (UCVA and BSCVA) and the direct observation of the crystalline lens by the slit-lamp image from which a first gradation of the state of every cataract eye is assessed (from 0 to 4). The analysis by the double-pass instrument (OQAS, Visiometrics SL, Spain) provides an objective quantification of intraocular scattering not affected by the contribution of the ocular aberrations (Alcon et al. ARVO 2007).

**Results:** The scatter index (OSI) provided a robust tool to objectively classify cataract patients:  $OSI < 2$  for eyes without cataract,  $2 < OSI < 5$  for early cataracts and  $OSI > 5$  for the mature cataract eyes. In most of the patients, we find a correlation between the value of OSI and the BSCVA and UCVA and the previous classification by the slit-lamp images. However, some noticeable differences suggest the convenience of using an objective parameter to establish the severity of the cataract and its actual impact on the retinal image.

**Conclusions:** We evaluated the feasibility of using a scatter parameter OSI as a standard procedure in clinical environments to quantify the severity of cataracts. This objective parameter helps to take a sound decision about the convenience of scheduling the cataract surgery.

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