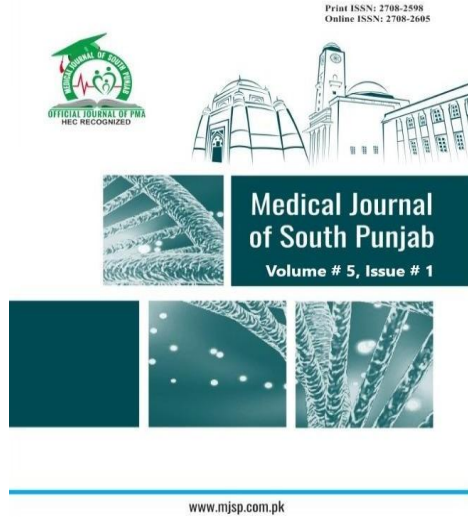


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Comparison of filter lenses versus non filter lens on stereoacuity in high myopic patients

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ABSTRACT

Objective: To determine whether filter lenses improve stereoacuity in high myopic patients compared to non-filter lens.

Methods: It was a comparative cross sectional study. This study was conducted in Asif Eye Clinic, Lahore. The study included 66 high myopic patients (40 males and 26 females) aged 18 to 60 years, with myopia ranging from -6.00D to -10.00D. The TNO test, a well-known tool for testing depth perception using random dot stereograms, was used to determine stereoacuity. Initially, each patient's baseline stereoacuity was measured without filter lenses. Further assessments were taken out using red, green, blue, and yellow filters to see if there were any differences in stereoacuity. To study the variations and estimate the possible benefits associated with each filter, repeated measures ANOVA and paired t-tests were used for statistical purposes.

Results: The results indicated that using blue filters in high myopic patients significantly improved their stereoacuity ($p = 0.001$). Yellow filters also resulted in a slight improvements, with a p -value of 0.04. However, when applied red or green filters on them, there were no statistically significant differences in stereoacuity were found compared to the non-filter baseline.

Conclusion: The outcomes of this study show that using filter lenses, particularly blue ones, can improve stereoacuity in patients with high myopia. This could possibility result in improved performance of vision for those with high myopia. However, more research is required to validate the findings with a larger and more wide group of patients.

Keywords: Stereoacuity, filter lenses, TNO test, high myopia, color filter.

1. INTRODUCTION

Stereopsis, also known as 3D vision or depth perception, is a refined visual ability that helps us see the world in three dimensions. It is an essential component of binocular vision, help us with everyday tasks such as judging distances and identifying objects. Interestingly, we are not born with this ability; it evolves over time as our visual experiences expand.^{1,2} Binocular retinal disparity plays a crucial role in the perception of depth through stereopsis.^{3,4} Conditions like amblyopia, anisometropia, or aniseikonia can disrupt typical binocular fusion, reducing stereoacuity. This, in turn, may affect the development of precise visual-motor skills and spatial resolution.^{5,6} Clinicians often evaluate stereoacuity using tests like Frisby and Titmus stereo test in a clinical setting.^{7,8}

Myopia ranks among the prevalent eye conditions in humans.⁹ The incidence of high myopia is on the rise, with a notable number of individuals experiencing binocular vision impairments^{10,11} High myopia is typically diagnosed when an individual's myopia advances to a point where they require -5 dioptres (D) or more of spherical correction, although there is variability in the definitions used to grade myopia^{12,13}

Studies suggest that by 2050, the number of people with vision loss from high myopia could increase seven times compared to the year 2000, making myopia a major cause of permanent blindness worldwide.¹⁴ Researchers have found that as the eyeball grows longer, which is called axial length elongation, the severity of myopia worsens, increasing the risk of high myopia.¹⁵ The World Health Organization (WHO) and the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness (IAPB) have mentioned refractive error as the second most common cause of blindness (first being cataract)^{16,17}.

Specialized filter lenses for low vision are designed to improve visual

acuity under specific lighting conditions by mitigating glare, boosting color discrimination, and optimizing contrast. Typically, these filters are prescribed by a low vision specialist subsequent to an eye examination assessing color contrast deficiencies.¹⁸ With the rising number of myopia patients, many also exhibit binocular vision disorders. This study aims to compare the impact of filter lenses versus non-filter lenses on stereoacuity in high myopic patients and assess their role in improving vision, providing valuable insights for clinicians.

2. METHODOLOGY

A Comparative Cross-Sectional study was conducted from December 2023 – May 2024 in Asif Eye Clinic, Lahore. The study involved 66 high myopic patients, comprising 40 males and 26 females, aged between 18 and 60 years. Sample size was calculated by using given formula

$$n = \frac{Z^2 P(1-P)}{d^2}$$

Where,

n = sample size

Z = Confidence Interval = 95%
= 1.96

d = error = 5% = 0.05

P = Prevalence Value = 0.03
(19)

So,

$$n = \frac{(1.96)^2 0.03(1-0.03)}{(0.05)^2} = 43.73$$

$$\approx 66$$

Participants were recruited using non-probability purposive sampling technique. Patients with myopia ranging from -6.00D to -10.00D, aged between 18 and 60 years, and no history of ocular surgery or other ocular pathologies were in inclusion criteria. Patients with amblyopia, strabismus, or any other condition affecting binocular vision were among the exclusion criteria. Stereoacuity was assessed using the TNO test, which evaluates depth perception through random dot stereograms. To establish a

baseline, we initially assessed each patient's stereoacuity without the use of any filter lenses. After that, we used red, green, blue, and yellow filters to measure their stereoacuity. We performed a repeated measures ANOVA to examine the changes in stereoacuity with each filter and determine whether the improvements were statistically significant. In order to compare the stereoacuity for each filter to the baseline findings obtained without filters, we also performed paired t-tests.

3. RESULTS

The chart illustrates the stereoacuity levels with and without different colored filters (Red, Blue, Green, Yellow) in high myopic patients. The results indicate that the blue filter leads to a significant improvement in stereoacuity, surpassing the other filters. While the yellow filter show some enhancements, but the blue filter demonstrates the most substantial impact. This visual representation reinforces the finding that blue filter lenses are the most effective in enhancing stereoacuity in high myopic patients.

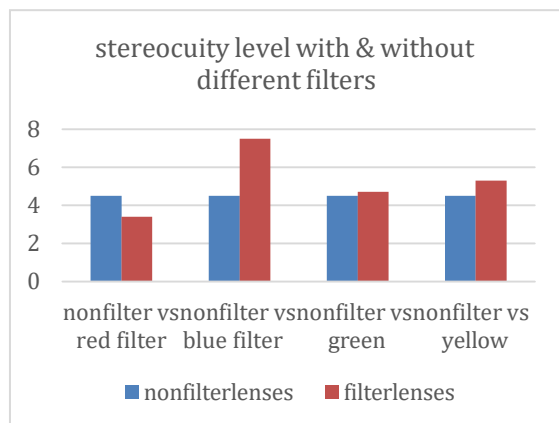


Table 1 shows the improvements in stereoacuity of red, blue, green, and yellow colored filters without without filter for patients with high myopia. Using a very significant p-value of 0.001 and a mean difference of 562.903, the paired t-test analysis demonstrated that the blue filter considerably increased stereoacuity

when compared to non-filter lenses. In addition, with a p-value of 0.04, the yellow filter indicated a minor improvement. These results show that in high myopia patients, blue filters are more useful for improving stereoacuity.

It was found that neither the red nor the green filters significantly improved stereoacuity when compared to the non-filter lenses, in comparison with the blue filter. Despite a few minor improvements, they weren't strong enough to make any real difference in our findings.

Table 1. Stereoacuity comparison with and without various colored filters.

| Comparison | Mean Difference ± SD | Confidence Interval – 95% (Lower+Upper) | t | df | sig |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|---|----------------|----|-----------|
| Non-filter with Red Filter | 500.48 4 ±7.22 | 55.21523- 69.31546 | 19. 12 4 | 65 | 0.0 9 |
| Non-filter with Blue Filter | 562.90 3 ±9.51 | 144.21546- 168.012361 | 26. 62 4 | 65 | 0.0 01 |
| Non-filter with Green Filter | 406.45 2 ±4.25 | 32.28549- 44.32145 | 16. 24 5 | 65 | 0.0 6 |
| Non-filter with Yellow Filter | 524.35 5 ±6.88 | 104.012451- 127.879620 | 20. 13 3 | 65 | 0.0 4 |

The pairwise comparison results, as shown in Table 2, highlight the differences between the various filters and non-filter lenses. The blue filter consistently showed the significant improvement across few comparisons.

This pairwise table shows the comparison between different filter lenses and non-filter lenses on stereoacuity in high myopic patients. The findings revealed that blue filters led to a significant improvement in stereoacuity with a p-value of 0.001 which

shows the results are highly significant. Yellow filters also demonstrated a slight improvement with a p-value of 0.04. However, red and green filters did not show statistically significant improvements. The blue filter consistently provided the greatest enhancement in stereoacuity across all comparisons, as detailed in the pairwise comparison results.

Table 3: Pairwise comparisons between filters and non filter lenses.

| Filters Compared | Mean Difference | Significance (p-value) | 95% Confidence Interval |
|-----------------------|-----------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Non-filter vs. Red | 38.548 | 0.06 | 29.332 to 47.765 |
| Non-filter vs. Green | 62.419 | 0.05 | 51.678 to 73.161 |
| Non-filter vs. Blue | 156.452 | 0.001 | 139.269 to 173.635 |
| Non-filter vs. Yellow | 115.806 | 0.01 | 98.907 to 132.706 |
| Red vs. Non-filter | -38.548 | 0.06 | -47.765 to -29.332 |
| Red vs. Green | 23.871 | 0.05 | 19.564 to 28.178 |
| Red vs. Blue | 117.903 | 0.001 | 104.707 to 131.099 |
| Red vs. Yellow | 77.258 | 0.01 | 65.124 to 89.392 |
| Green vs. Non-filter | -62.419 | 0.05 | -73.161 to -51.678 |
| Green vs. Red | -23.871 | 0.05 | -28.178 to -19.564 |
| Green vs. Blue | 94.032 | 0.001 | 82.735 to 105.329 |
| Green vs. Yellow | 53.387 | 0.01 | 43.499 to 63.276 |
| Blue vs. Non-filter | -156.452 | 0.001 | -173.635 to -139.269 |

| | | | |
|-----------------------|----------|-------|----------------------|
| Blue vs. Red | -117.903 | 0.001 | -131.099 to -104.707 |
| Blue vs. Green | -94.032 | 0.001 | -105.329 to -82.735 |
| Blue vs. Yellow | -40.645 | 0.01 | -49.114 to -32.176 |
| Yellow vs. Non-filter | -115.806 | 0.01 | -132.706 to -98.907 |
| Yellow vs. Red | -77.258 | 0.01 | -89.392 to -65.124 |
| Yellow vs. Green | -53.387 | 0.01 | -63.276 to -43.499 |
| Yellow vs. Blue | 40.645 | 0.001 | 32.176 to 49.114 |

4. DISCUSSION

A comparative cross-sectional study was conducted to compare the effects of different colored filters on stereoacuity (red, green, blue, and yellow) to non-filter lenses in high myopic patients. The study included 66 patients, with 40 males and 26 females, all having high myopia ($\geq 6D$). The results showed a significant improvement in stereoacuity for patients using blue filters, with a p-value of 0.001 which highlights the strong impact of this filter. Additionally, yellow filters also showed a slight improvement in stereoacuity with a p-value of 0.04. Red and green filters did not demonstrate statistically significant improvements in stereoacuity.

Previous studies focus was on the effect of different filters on visual performance, but no one have specifically compared the impact of 4 colored filters on stereoacuity in high myopic patients collectively. This study showed the influence of blue and yellow filters on contrast sensitivity but did not evaluate stereoacuity.¹⁹ In this study, we found that blue filters were especially effective, with a statistically significant improvement in

stereoacuity (p-value = 0.001). This shows that blue filters may enhance depth perception in high myopic individuals more effectively than other colored filters. In comparison, the results of the previous study indicate a significant improvement in visual acuity among amblyopic patients using blue filters (P = 0.00), emphasizing the potential clinical significance of blue filters in managing visual impairments.²⁰ Our study's results revealed a significant improvement in stereoacuity with blue filters which had a mean score of 562.903 ± 9.51 (P = 0.001) in high myopic patients validating the findings of increased clarity and sharpness reported by participants.

In our study, the yellow filter showed very slight improvements in stereoacuity, with a (p-value of 0.04). While the improvement was statistically significant, it was not as strong as the results seen with the blue filters. Their findings aligns with our study, where the yellow filter offered only slight improvement in stereoacuity compared to the more substantial benefits observed with blue filters.²¹ Another previous study found that yellow-tinted lenses, could affect various visual functions, including contrast sensitivity and the time of reaction. While their study focused on emmetropic individuals, this present research extends these findings to high myopic patients.²²

Another research on myopic patients who underwent implantable Collamer lens (ICL) surgery revealed improvements in their near and distance stereoacuity following the surgical procedure.²³ On the other hand, the present study concentrates on filter lenses, which present a less invasive alternative that may prove particularly beneficial for patients who are unsuitable for surgery or who would prefer to avoid surgery. Furthermore, the fact that many colored filters have distinct effects raises the possibility that a customized strategy may

be required because patients may react differently to each filter. The limitations of this study include a small number of participants, a short duration, and a non-randomly selected sample.

5. CONCLUSION

This study shows that blue filters may help improve stereoacuity in people with high myopia. These results open up new possibilities for investigation into how best to use visual aids and improve the lives of people with high myopia. In order to guarantee better and more personalized solutions in the future, further research is required to completely understand and utilize these developments in clinical practice.

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