

among SLE patients. Further investigation is needed to fully elucidate associations between biological (unpredictable of SLE symptoms), social (informational and appraisal sources of social support), and community level (public awareness campaigns) factors influencing disease. Findings also point to the necessity of integrating community organizations, physicians, and friends and family of patients with SLE into capacity building interventions aimed at improving HRQOL.

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**15 FREQUENCY OF HYDROXYCHLOROQUINE RETINOPATHY IN THE HOPKINS LUPUS COHORT**

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**Background** The Kaiser-Permanente study projected hydroxychloroquine (HCQ) retinopathy rates of 40% after 20 years of use. We have prospectively followed SLE patients in the Hopkins lupus cohort to compare.

**Methods** Patients in the Hopkins cohort are seen quarterly for assessment of disease activity and lupus complications. Yearly ophthalmology examinations are requested. Patients, if insurance allows, are referred to the Wilmer Retina group. Four tests are performed: OCT, ERG, MP-1 and FAF.

**Results** Patients had a variety of retinal testing done, with optical coherence testing most frequent. Table 1 shows the concordance of a test abnormality with the retina expert opinion.

The concordance of the test abnormality with the retina expert opinion showed the following sensitivity and specificity, respectively: OCT 93%, 84%; ERG 100%, 51%; MP1 100%, 70%; and FAF 83%, 76%.

The frequency of retinopathy increased with years of HCQ use [number of retinopathies per total patients (percent frequency)]: 5 years or less, 1/103 (0.97%); 6–10 years, 2/109

**Abstract 15 Table 1** Performance of retinal imaging modalities relative to expert diagnosis

Test	Retinopathy N (%)	No Retinopathy N (%)
<b>Ocular Coherence Tomography (OCT)</b>		
Abnormal	25 (93%)	133 (16%)
Normal	2 (7%)	721 (84%)
Total	27	854
<b>Electroretinogram (ERG)</b>		
Abnormal	15 (100%)	195 (49%)
Normal	0 (0%)	201 (51%)
Total	15	396
<b>Microperimetry (MP1)</b>		
Abnormal	17 (100%)	144 (30%)
Normal	0 (0%)	331 (70%)
Total	17	475
<b>Fundal Autofluorescence (FAF)</b>		
Abnormal	19 (83%)	165 (24%)
Normal	4 (17%)	536 (76%)
Total	23	701

(1.83%); 11–15 years, 3/91 (3.30%); 16–20 years, 11/96 (11.46%); and 21 or more years, 6/75 (8.00%).

**Conclusions** In agreement with the American Academy of Ophthalmology, OCT appears to be the optimum test for yearly monitoring. The frequency of retinopathy was much lower in our prospective study than estimated by the Kaiser-Permanente study. Our data also show the need for ophthalmologists with retinopathy expertise to interpret retina testing, as screening tests are frequently abnormal due to causes other than HCQ retinopathy. Stopping HCQ based on an abnormal test without confirmation from a retinopathy expert could needlessly deprive an SLE patient of an important medication.

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**16 HYDROXYCHLOROQUINE BLOOD LEVELS PREDICT RETINOPATHY IN SLE**

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**Background** Hydroxychloroquine (HCQ) retinopathy after 10 years or more of use is more frequent than previously appreciated. This led to new ophthalmology guidelines that

**Abstract 16 Table 1** Risk of HCQ retinal toxicity (univariate)

	No n (%)	Yes n (%)	p	P for Trend
<b>Characteristic</b>				
Sex			0.1029	
Female	475 (96.2)	19 (3.8)		
Male	39 (90.7)	4 (9.3)		
Ethnicity			0.3804	
White	238 (94.4)	14 (5.6)		
Black	215 (96.4)	8 (3.6)		
Other	61 (98.4)	1 (1.6)		
Age			<0.0001	<0.0001
<45	215 (99.5)	1 (0.5)		
45–59	175 (95.6)	8 (4.4)		
60+	124 (89.9)	14 (10.1)		
HCQ max			0.0340	0.0143
1 (0 to 1182)	161 (98.8)	2 (1.2)		
2 (1183 to 1752)	157 (95.2)	8 (4.8)		
3 (1753 to 6281)	153 (93.3)	11 (6.7)		
HCQ duration			0.0006	0.0002
1 (0 to 8 years)	158 (98.8)	2 (1.2)		
2 (9 to 15 years)	139 (97.2)	4 (2.8)		
3 (16 to 48 years)	154 (90.1)	17 (9.9)		
BMI			0.1701	0.0160
<20	50 (98.0)	1 (2.0)		
20–25	171 (97.7)	4 (2.3)		
25–30	159 (95.2)	8 (4.8)		
30–35	76 (95.0)	4 (5.0)		
35+	58 (90.6)	6 (9.4)		
HTN Ever			0.0020	
Yes	276 (93.2)	20 (6.8)		
No	238 (98.8)	3 (1.2)		