Authors' reply to: Using anterior segment optical coherence tomography to compare the smoothness of anterior iris surface between two eyes in unilateral Fuchs' uveitis syndrome

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We thank Zarei M et al. for the comments on our article [1].

Iris changes are well-known features of Fuchs' uveitis syndrome (FUS). Diffuse iris atrophy without hypochromia is reported as 49% in a large longitudinal study [2]. However, the decision on diffuse atrophy existence in this study has been made by observation not based on quantitative analysis. The studies that conducted for analysis of iris thickness of FUS quantitatively have shown decreased iris thickness (IT) in the affected eye compared with the healthy fellow eye [3, 4]. In our study, we could not have found a statistically significant difference between the IT of both eyes having unilateral FUS, and we concluded that this might be due to racial differences in iris morphology or patient selection.

Zarei M et al. have noticed the conflicting results about the IT differences of unilateral FUS cases in the literature and would like to offer a new parameter, smoothness index, to overcome this controversial [5]. Since the flattening of the iris crypts is found in 81% of our FUS cases, we think that the smoothness index might be a useful parameter in distinguishing the affected eyes from the healthy eyes. However, we have some concerns about the image acquisition technique for calculation of this parameter. We have noticed that the images which were addressed by the authors are acquired from dilated eyes. Dilation of pupil might lead to altered iris crypts due to its flexible structure resembling an accordion. So, we suggest them to pay attention to the fact that the pupil of the evaluated patients is in miotic state at the time of anterior segment OCT image acquisition.

Again, we would like to thank Zarei M et al. for the interest shown in our study and for raising this point in a letter to the editor.

Compliance with ethical standards

Conflict of interest The authors declare that they have no conflicts of interest.

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