EVIDENCE-BASED EFFICACY OF MYOPIA CONTROL INTERVENTIONS

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Background

- Some reports in ophthalmological journals favor 0.01% atropine treatment for myopia control while giving little credence to soft lens options.¹⁻³
- Previously, efficacy of myopia control interventions has been expressed as percentage or absolute reduction in myopia progression over a given time frame.
- Longer term estimates of efficacy fail to address two important considerations:

1. TREATMENT EFFECT IS ABSOLUTE RATHER THAN RELATIVE ACROSS THE PROGRESSION RANGE

Figure 1: Standardized cumulative frequency of 6 and 12 month axial elongation for test and control lens populations from Cheng et al. (2016). The parallel nature of the lines shows absolute rather than relative treatment effect across the progression range.



		6 MONT	18				12 MONTHS		
Progression Percentile	Control Group (mm)	Treated Group (mm)	Percentage Treatment	Absolute Treatment (mm)	Progression Percentile	Control Group (mm)	Treated Group (mm)	Percentage Treatment	Absolute Treatmen (mm)
10%	0.06	-0.07	217%	0.12	10%	0.19	0.07	60%	0.11
20%	0.08	-0.03	135%	0.11	20%	0.27	0.12	54%	0.14
30%	0.12	0.00	102%	0.12	30%	0.31	0.14	56%	0.17
40%	0.14	0.03	75%	0.10	40%	0.33	0.15	56%	0.18
50%	0.17	0.07	60%	0.10	50%	0.35	0.18	49%	0.17
60%	0.19	0.10	50%	0.10	60%	0.41	0.27	35%	0.14
70%	0.21	0.12	44%	0.09	70%	0.44	0.29	34%	0.15
80%	0.24	0.16	33%	0.08	80%	0.50	0.34	32%	0.16
90%	0.31	0.18	41%	0.12	90%	0.57	0.43	24%	0.13

This effect is consistent across interventions.⁵

2. EFFICACY DECREASES OVER TIME ON BOTH AN ABSOLUTE AND RELATIVE BASIS⁶

A. Relative treatment efficacy of investigational myopia-control soft lenses during 1st and 2^{std} periods of study-^{4,5,9} B. Relative myopia control efficacy across 5 years in an orthokeratology investigation with yearly efficacy plotted.⁴³ C. Absolute difference in elongation between treatment and control groups for high-dose, medium-dose and lowdose attropine in the first and second years of treatment using data from the subgroup analysis of Huang et al.¹³



Method

- Systematic literature review:
- Myopia control interventions currently of interest
- Included relevant peer-reviewed conference abstracts
- 33 studies identified



Studies reported by Let al Ophthalmic Physiol Opt 2017;37:51 Studies reported by Let al Ophthalmic Physiol Opt 2017;37:51 Chamberlian et al Optom Vis So 2017; e abstract 170075 Cheng et al IOVS (ARVO obstract) 2018; 59(9):3927 Ruiz-Armeda et al Grafe / Art/ IDi po (JA) 2018;256:1011

Levels of Evidence

 Quality of investigations based on adherence to evidence-based principles for study design were categorized.

Maximum Efficacy

- The only indisputable metric than can be used is data-driven estimates of cumulative absolute reduction in progression rather than absolute annual or relative rates.
- The primary variable should be reduction in axial elongation because of its assumed relevance to disease development but refractive error serves as an important secondary endpoint.
 Maximum efficacy outcomes of each category of intervention by
- reported values was assessed.
- Likely maximum efficacy from available data for some interventions was also modelled.

Results

- Table 2 shows classification of 33 identified studies according to quality of evidence. Study designs to the left in the table represent more rigorous levels of evidence.
- Despite the popularity of low-dose (0.01%) atropine, there is no direct evidence of a significant reduction in axial elongation with this intervention.
- Orthokeratology (in a cohort study) and spectacles (in a controlled, randomized study with selective inclusion criteria) have provided the largest recorded cumulative treatment effects.
- Soft, multifocal lenses have the greatest weight of evidence but do not demonstrate superior performance possibly because of insufficient study periods.
- Increased time outdoors alone does not provide a large treatment effect but may be a useful adjunct therapy.
- Modelled data support the proposition of maximum potential efficacy over time. Figure 3 presents an example of expected treatment efficacy based on this analysis.
- Rebound has been observed with atropine treatments and orthokeratology (see figure 4). No intervention with sizeable treatment effect has been shown to be free of rebound.

Table 2: Level of evidence and maximum demonstrated efficacy for a set of myopia control interventions of current interest (higher doses of atropine and various bi/multifocal spectacles are not included).

Clearance						
(globally)	Metric	Controlled Randomized Masked	Controlled Randomized	Cohort/ Other	Maximum efficacy (D)	
	Refractive	2	-	2	0.79D	
_	Axial	1	_	1	0.05mm*	
	Refractive	-	-	-	-	
_	Axial	_	2	10	0.43mm	
2	Refractive	4	3	4	0.69D*	
	Axial	4	3	3	0.29mm*	
	Refractive	-	3	-	1.05D*	
—/NA	Axial	-	3	-	0.31mm*	
	Refractive	-	2	2	0.61D	
NA	Axial	-	1	-	0.15mm*	
	(globally) - 2 -/NA NA	(Globaliy) - Refractive Axial Refractive Axial 2 Refractive Axial -/NA Refractive Axial NA Refractive Axial	(globalby) Mosked Refractive 2 Axial 1 Refractive - 2 Refractive 4 Axial 4 - 2 Axial 4 -/NA Refractive - NA Axial -	Annonized Management Randomized Refractive Randomized Paint Refractive 2 - Avial 1 - Refractive - - Avial - 2 Refractive 4 3 Avial 4 3 -/NA Refractive - 3 Avial - 2 3 NA Refractive - 3 NA Avial - 2	(globoly) Nandomized Model Randomized Annonized Other	

* indicates results from randomized, controlled studies

Figure 2: Logarithmic curves fit to cumulative treatment efficacy data for selected modalities. For soft multifical and spectacle lens data, only studies showing over 50% initial treatment efficacy were included. Mer 7 years, the different interventions are projected to have modest treatment effects. Differences between modalities are unlikely to be significant based on these data.



Conclusions

- The maximum treatment effect that can currently be directly supported by data is 0.43mm for axial elongation (orthokeratology) and 1.05D (spectacles) for refractive error.
- Quality of evidence is highest for soft multifocal lenses.
- Such efficacy may be restricted to a subset of patients and rebound cannot be ruled out.
- Greater efficacy may occur but requires evidence. Projected percentage treatment effects commonly reported are speculative and not evidence-based.
- This analysis establishes a precedent for evidence-based reporting of myopia control interventions.

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Figure 3: Example plot showing projected progression for an individual with 1D of myopia untreated, when treated using the interpretation of the current analysis and if 50% efficacy is assumed.









THE ILLUSION OF GREAT SUCCESS

A myopia control intervention in an individual child identified as a fast progressor will likely seem to have immediate and substantial success. But long term success can easily be falsely asserted. A number of factors contribute to the illusion:

(i) Myopia progression is fastest at diagnosis and tends to slow thereafter. In an unpublished analysis of 186 untreated myopic eyes in children, 45 showed greater than 0.4mm axial elongation in the first year of follow-up. All but one eye (98%) showed less progression in the second year with an average reduction in progression of 35%. (ii) Regression to the mean is a powerful effect. A difference between two refractive error measures will likely have a standard deviation in excess of 0.35D. More extreme values (that is, those deemed to be fast progressors, who are thus more likely to be treated) on first measurement tend to the average on second measurement. (iii) Treatment efficacy is greatest initially and subsequently reduces over time as shown in this poster.

Content in this poster refers specifically to experimental trials of investigational product and is presented to analyze advances in the science of myopia control. There are no products currently cleared by the FDA for marketing in the USA for myopia control. Johnson & Johnson Vision Care, Inc. does not endorse off-label usage of any products.

Disclosure: Noel Brennan, Xu Cheng are employees of Johnson & Johnson Vision. Mark Bullimore consults for Johnson & Johnson Vision, Acucela, Inc., Alcon Research, Amorpher: Therapeutics, LLC, Apelle Pharmaceuticals, Inc., CooperVision, Inc., Eyenovia, Inc., Genentech, Inc., Novartis Pharma AG, Tear Film Innovations, Inc.

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