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Agreement between Rebound and Applanation Tonometry in Children

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Agreement profiles for rebound and applanation tonometry in normal and glaucomatous children

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Article



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IOP measurement

- Goldmann applanation
 - Gold standard
 - Perkins
- In Pediatric age group: (Challenges)



But

Challenges



Sitting at the Slit lamp?



Cooperation???



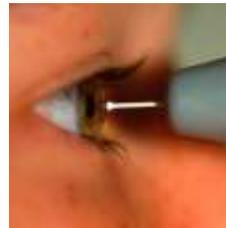
In office Sedation?

In theatre General anesthesia? (type/stage)



Advantages of I-Care

- Handheld RBT
- **Fine** sensor **tip** (less than 2 mm in diameter)
- **Fast**: Measurements are taken within 0.1 s.
- The force is minimal → **No blink reflex.**
- **No topical anesthesia** is required.
- **Awake**



So what do we have?

A Gold standard

- Challenges



PAT

New promising tool

- Needs validation



I-Care TA01

Purpose

- To detect the degree of **agreement** between IOP measurements by RBT and PAT **in children with and without PCG**
- Test devices' **agreement** with varying **age and IOP**
- Investigate whether there is an **IOP limit**, above which the degree of agreement changes.

Methods

- A prospective non-interventional comparative study (Jan-June 2017)
- 223 eyes of 115 children (<16 years)
 - 161 normal eyes
 - 62 PCG eyes.
- Excluded patients:
 - 2ry glaucoma, corneal edema, uncooperative

Methods

- IOP measured in upright position
 - First by I-Care (TA01)
 - then topical anesthetic (Benox[®] eye drops)
 - then by Perkins applanation tonometer.



- 9 cases required sedation (chloral hydrate) for measuring with PAT

Statistics

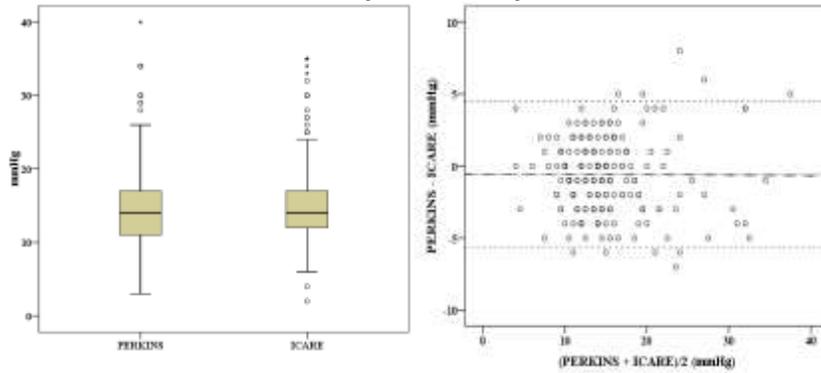
- Groups
 - Normal and PCG
 - ≤ 3 years and > 3 years
 - IOP ≤ 15 mmHg and those > 15 mmHg
- The Bland-Altman plot was used to compare the bias, and 95% LOA between I-Care and PAT in each group.

Results

	Normal	PCG	p value
Age (y)	6.3 (4mo-14y)	7 (8mo-16y)	0.205

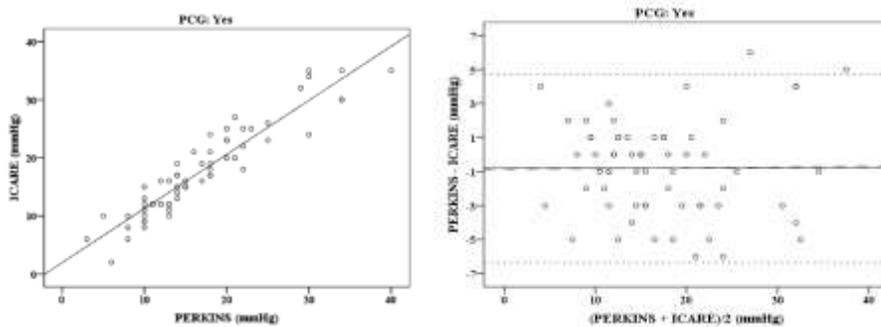
	PAT	I-Care	Difference	p-value	Regression
IOP all	14.6 \pm 5.5	15.2 \pm 5.5	-0.59 \pm 2.6	p = 0.001	r = 0.9 and r ² = 0.79 (p < 0.001)

For all participants



- **Bland–Altman plot** between average and mean difference in IOP by both devices.
- The thin solid line is the mean of difference (-0.59 ± 2.6)
- The dashed line is the 95% LOA -5.67 and $+4.49$ mmHg
- **Fixed bias** ($p = 0.001$)
- Dash dotted line is the regression line ($r = 0.9$ and $r^2 = 0.79$ ($p < 0.001$))

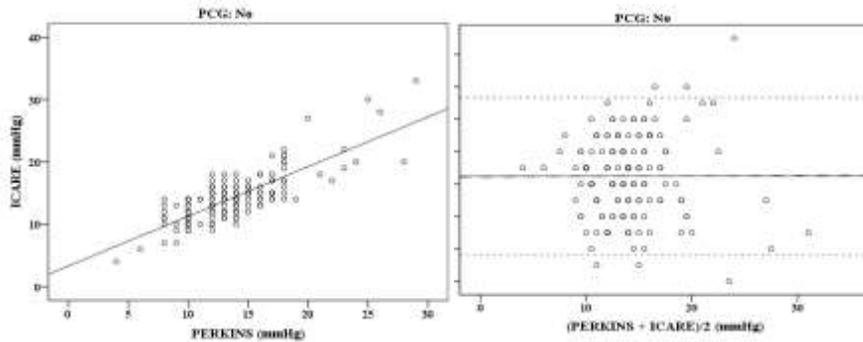
For PCG patients



The regression analysis showed a **strong positive correlation**
 Correlation coefficient (r) **0.935**
 Determination coefficient (r^2) **0.874**
 $p < 0.001$

The **Bland–Altman plot** showed
 95% LOA from **-6.34 to $+4.76$** mmHg
Fixed bias
 ($p = 0.032$).

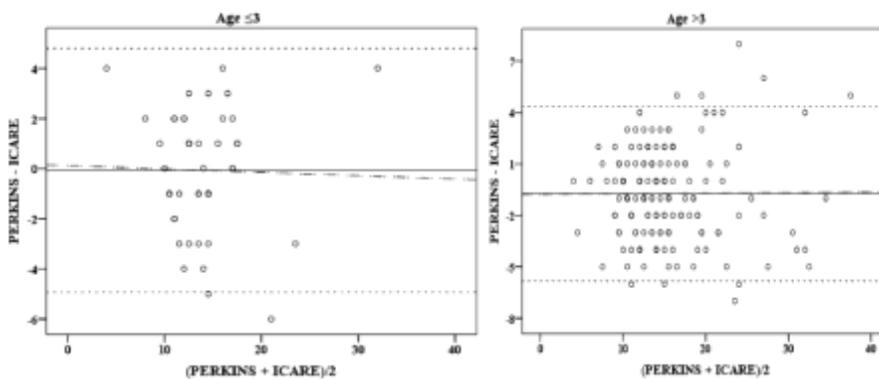
Normal participants



The regression analysis
strong **positive correlation** with
($r = 0.8$, $r^2 = 0.64$,
 $p = 0.001$)

The Bland–Altman plot
95% LOA -5.41 to $+4.36$ mmHg
Fixed bias
($p = 0.01$).

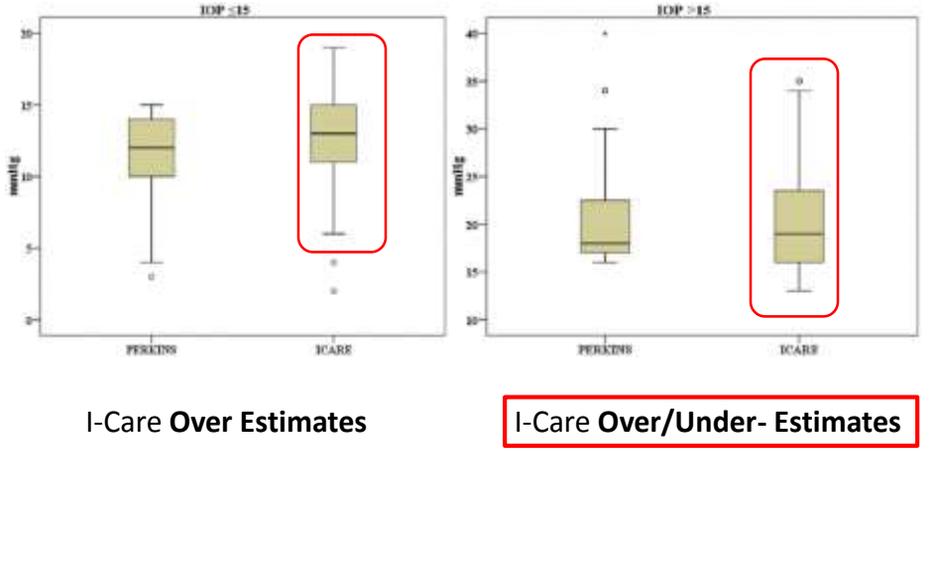
Age ≤ 3 (20%) vs. >3 years



The Bland–Altman plot
95% LOA -4.93 and $+4.8$ mmHg
Proportional bias ($p = 0.86$)
?? Corneal biomechanical properties

The Bland–Altman plot
95% LOA -5.83 to $+4.39$ mmHg
Fixed bias ($p < 0.001$)

IOP ≤ 15 vs. >15 mmHg



IOP ≤ 15 (68%) vs. >15 mmHg

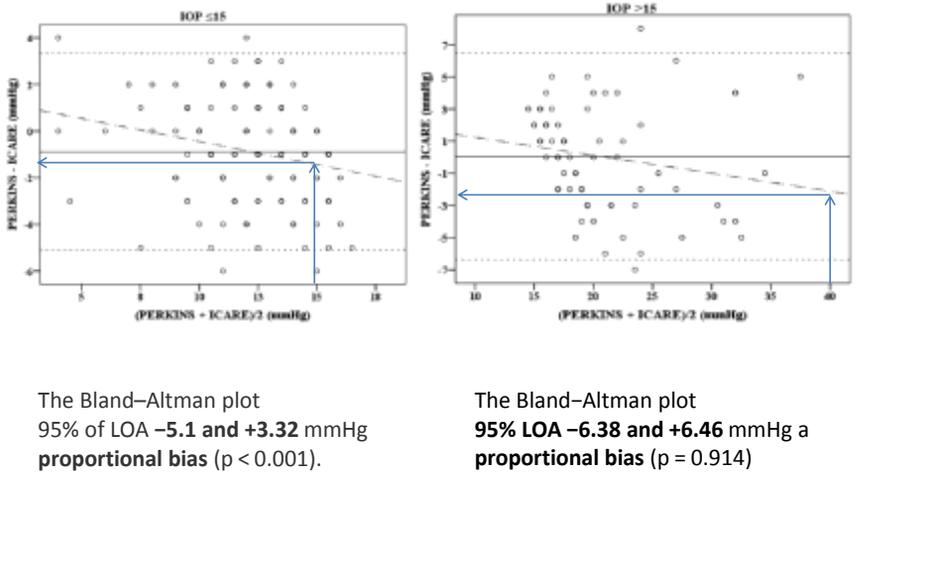


Table 1. Bias and 95% LOA in all groups.

Group	Bias (mmHg)	SD	95% LOA
All	-0.59	2.59	-5.67 to +4.48
PCG	-0.79	2.83	-6.34 to +4.76
Healthy	-0.52	2.5	-5.41 to +4.36
IOP ≤ 15 mmHg	-0.89	2.15	-5.1 to +3.32
IOP > 15 mmHg	0.04	3.28	-6.38 to +6.46
Age ≤ 3 years	-0.07	2.48	-4.93 to +4.8
Age > 3 years	-0.72	2.61	-5.83 to +4.39

SD: standard deviation; PCG: primary congenital glaucoma; IOP: intra-ocular pressure; LOA: limits of agreement.

Discussion

- **Before our study.....**
- **Large-scale studies** to compare the two tonometers in patients with **PCG** are **lacking** due to relative rarity of the condition.
- Many previous study results have been complicated by the use of a **general anesthetic**, which can alter the IOP.
- Previous studies have not included children younger than 3 years.

- Our results show that the LOA between both devices decreases with higher IOP measurements
- A similar report by Dahlmann-Noor (2013)
 - Compared GAT to RBT in 102 subjects with glaucoma (mean age 11 years),
 - **I-care Pro** gave higher readings than GAT.
 - The magnitude of disagreement increased with IOP
 - the LOA went from (-8.6, 3.9) in IOP < 21 mmHg to (-21.08, 10.04) in IOP > 21 mmHg.
- Our results may not be as profound, while
 - The majority of our cases had an IOP <15 mmHg (**68%**)
 - Only **38.5%** (62) of eyes were **glaucomatous**
 - **TA01 model**

In answer of our research questions:

- To detect the degree of **agreement** between IOP measurements by RBT and PAT **in children with and without PCG**
- Test devices' **agreement** with varying **age and IOP**
- Investigate whether there is an **IOP limit**, above which the degree of agreement changes.

Conclusion

- There is a good correlation between RBT (I-Care) and PAT in children with and without PCG.
- RBT overestimates IOP (usually)
- In IOPs >15 mmHg there is less agreement between the two devices.

Recommendations

- RBT is a good **screening** tool:
 - It tends to overestimate the IOP (not under diagnose glaucoma).
 - Less intimidating (no topical anesthesia/ sedation required)
 - Easier to use especially in infants with small palpebral fissures
- It is a suitable **follow-up** method
 - Detect IOP changes in glaucoma patients
- If **IOP ++** → **PERKINS** (diagnosing/initiating treatment).
- An assessment involving **corneal biomechanics** may add further understanding and explanation for age variations

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Thank You

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