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TOPOGRAPHIC KERATOCONUS INCIDENCE IN SCREENING OF 100 RANDOM STUDENTS 15-25 YEARS OF AGE IN GREECE

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Purpose: Scheimpflug tomography integral part of assessment in even asymptomatic keratoconus diagnosis in puberty and young adulthood in Greece.

Methods: 100 consecutive random high school and college students underwent Scheimpflug tomography to evaluate the topographic incidence of keratoconus as classified by the Pentacam HR (stages 1 to 4) as well as keratoconus suspicion based on irregular pachymetry distribution, astigmatism truncation and/or irregularity. We formed 4 groups: A: keratoconus, B: keratoconus suspects, C: regular corneas and D: irregular, not keratoconus-related corneas. All tomography maps were evaluated by 5 different evaluators (2 ophthalmic surgeons and 3 optometrists).

Results: Mean age 21 (15-25), 60% female, 40% male. 2 or 2% were included in group A, or 67% in group B, 28 or 28% in group C and final 3 or 3% in group D. No disagreement between the 5 evaluators for cases in group A, C and D, little variance for cases included in group B (<5%).

Conclusions: These data support very high asymptomatic incidence of keratoconus suspects identified in young Greeks. These data support screening for the disease among the Greek population, especially in puberty and careful screening when laser vision correction is considered