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Short Communication

Eyemaging Revolution

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Beforehand, I am delighted to be requested to compose this editorial for the new issue of Acta Scientific Ophthalmology. A profound metamorphosis in the society after -as well as during- pandemic has undoubtfully occurred and it has radically changed many areas in mankind's knowledge, so far. It is a fact that many countries remain heavily tackling Covid-19 and its consequent burden. Notwithstanding, despite the helpful tools they had delivered to us, the time for informatics and technology revolution has gone since artificial intelligence and big data are one step ahead by grabbing the reins during this particular and tumultuous period.

Meanwhile, a reminiscence comes to my mind of myself walking through the outstanding streets in Barcelona, not long ago, to whom a singular retail store belongs. Its business model was based on picture capture of the anterior segment of the eye and printing it in a take-home portrait. The exclusive structure, unique density of iris stroma and the pigmented granules in it, apparently crowded the entrance. Bewilderment grasped my mind as everyone is used to staring at their own iris during every morning routine in front of the mirror, at least. In other words, what makes community to feel attracted to their own iris portrait? By paying attention to the atmosphere that surrounds us as well as attending to the rise of the social media, one could determine there is something else: a vast cult of image and appearance. Besides, the ophthalmologic field has become consequently pervaded with the advent of eyemaging -a handy combination of the words eye and imaging.

Traditional ophthalmology relied on the virtues of lenses and slit lamps on imaging the eye but this concept has turned into radically different on the present day. Although in some media ophthalmologists do not have effortless access to modern equipment, eyemaging has spread all over the world. Image technology has achieved making us dependent in our daily routine -even though it is extraordinarily helpful-. Moreover, not only optical coherence tomography-OCT and OCT-angiography-OCTA, biometry, topography, aberrometry, ultrasonography or wide-field retinography have overpowered the diagnostic abilities of the ophthalmologist. On the other hand, femtosecond lasers, 3-dimensional surgery or intraoperative OCT have taken the treatment command, by dramatically improving outcomes and/or reducing surgeon's uncertainty over the procedure.

A wide look at the ophthalmic history reveals a new era, completely differentiated from that practice described in the Hammurabi Code in the Ancient Egypt, whilst additionally divergent from the Harold Ridley's contemporary practice when he successfully implanted the first intraocular lens in 8th February 1950 at St. Thomas Hospital [1]. As a matter of fact, ophthalmology is considered by historians as the first branch which arose in medical subspecialties, being cleft by then from the rest. Likewise, beholding back, it is lawful to say that a very special transversal branch inside ophthalmology has shortly emerged and must be mastered so as to provide us the faculty of easing and improving patient's quality of life: eyemaging.

Conflict of Interest

The author declares that there is no conflict of interest.

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