

Don't be Mistaken by Selfie Photographs in Ophthalmology

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Social media have given rise to new forms of self-presentation, in particular, the posting of self-portrait photos, commonly known as “selfies”. Patient photographs can be taken normally or as selfies [1].

There is an upsurge in sending selfie photographs of patients to ophthalmologists [2]. The difficulty is that the side is not the same in the 2 cases. In normal photography, the right eye appears as in normal sight. On the other hand, during selfie photographs, the right eye appears to be the left eye. This is because the selfie is actually an image of the mirror.

If the ophthalmologist is not aware of the type of photograph, he may make a mistake and operate on the wrong side.

We must therefore ask the patient to indicate what type of photograph it is: normal or selfie.

Conflict of Interest

The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.



Figure 1: Picture of a face with the normal photograph with a mark on the right eye.



Figure 2: Picture of the same face with selfie photograph with a mark on the right eye.

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