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1 **Visual Function Questionnaire as an outcome measure for homonymous hemianopia: subscales**
2 **and supplementary questions, analysis from the VISION trial**

3

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45 **Declarations:**

46 **Author contributions**

47 FR, AD, MGF, SJ, CN, AP, JR and CS conceived of the study, participated in the design and
48 coordination, and helped to draft the manuscript. LH, EB, CD, CH and TS participated in the
49 coordination and helped to draft the manuscript. EJC wrote the statistical analysis plan, performed
50 the VFQ 25(10) analysis and supervised the statistical VFQ-25 analysis, participated in the
51 coordination and data monitoring and helped to draft the manuscript. NEAR performed the VFQ-
52 25(10) analysis and helped to draft the manuscript. All authors read and approved the final
53 manuscript.

54 **Availability of data and material**

55 The dataset used and analysed during the current trial is available from the corresponding author on
56 reasonable request.

57 **Competing interests**

58 This trial was funded by the UK Stroke Association.

59 The sponsor (University of Liverpool Research Support Office) and funder (the Stroke Organisation)
60 had no role in the study design, collection, management, analysis, interpretation of data, writing of
61 the report; and the decision to submit the protocol for publication.

62 **Conflict of interests**

63 No conflicting relationship exists for any author

64 **Ethical approval and consent**

65 NHS research ethical approval was given for this trial (10/H1003/119). All participants provided
66 informed, witnessed consent.

67 **Financial support**

68 This trial was funded by the Stroke Association, UK (TSA 2010/02). The sponsor or funding
69 organization had no role in the design or conduct of this research.

70

71 **Abbreviations**

72 VISION: Vision Impairment in Stroke: Intervention Or Not

73 UK: United Kingdom

74 NEI VFQ-25-10 (Neuro 10): National Eye Institute Visual Functional Questionnaire with Neuro 10
75 supplement

76 NHS: National Health Service

77 RNIB: Royal National Institute for the Blind

78 SD: Standard Deviation

79 VFQ-25: Visual Functional Questionnaire 25

80

81

82

83 **Abstract**

84 Background: We conduct supplementary analyses of the NEI VFQ-25 data to evaluate where changes
85 occurred within subscales of the NEI VFQ-25 leading to change in the composite scores between the
86 three treatment arms, and evaluate the NEI VFQ-25 with and without the Neuro 10 supplement.

87 Methods: A prospective, multicentre, parallel, single-blind, three-arm RCT of fourteen UK acute
88 stroke units was conducted. Stroke survivors with homonymous hemianopia were recruited.
89 Interventions included: Fresnel prisms for minimum 2 hours, 5 days/week over 6-weeks (Arm a),
90 Visual search training for minimum 30 minutes, 5 days/week over 6-weeks (Arm b) and standard
91 care-information only (Arm c). Primary and secondary outcomes (including NEI VFQ-25 data) were
92 measured at baseline, 6, 12 and 26 weeks after randomisation.

93 Results: Eighty seven patients were recruited (69% male; mean age (SD) equal to 69 (12) years). At
94 26 weeks, outcomes for 24, 24 and 22 patients, respectively, were compared to baseline. NEI VFQ-25
95 (with and without Neuro 10) responses improved from baseline to 26 weeks with visual search
96 training compared to Fresnel prisms and standard care. In subscale analysis, the most impacted
97 across all treatment arms was 'driving' whilst the least impacted were 'colour vision' and 'ocular
98 pain'.

99 Conclusions: Composite scores differed systematically for the NEI VFQ-25 (Neuro 10) versus NEI
100 VFQ-25 at all time points. For subscale scores, descriptive statistics suggest clinically relevant
101 improvement in distance activities and vision-specific dependency subscales for NEI VFQ-25 scores in
102 the visual search treatment arm.

103

104

105

106 Trial Registration: Current Controlled Trials ISRCTN05956042.

107

108 **Keywords:** Homonymous hemianopia; Pilot trial; Prism therapy; Randomised controlled trial;

109 Standard care; Stroke; Visual search training; Visual Function Questionnaire-25; Quality of life

110

111

112 **Background**

113 Homonymous hemianopia results in loss of one-half of the visual field in both eyes [1, 2]. The mean
114 prevalence of visual field loss following stroke has been reported as 31%, although there are large
115 variations in figures reported by individual studies [3].

116 Homonymous visual field defects can have a severe impact on functional ability and quality of life
117 following stroke [4, 5]. Patients with visual field defects report increased risk of falling, impaired
118 ability to read, altered activities of daily living, loss of confidence and institutionalization [4, 6, 7].
119 There may also be an impact on the patient's ability to participate in rehabilitation as a result of
120 visual field loss which may ultimately affect prognosis and long-term recovery [7]. There is an
121 increased risk of accidents or injuries with visual field loss, which subsequently has cost implications
122 to the NHS and society [8].

123 Two clinically used interventions to improve vision in hemianopia are visual search compensatory
124 training and provision of monocular prisms [9]. These interventions for homonymous hemianopia
125 were evaluated by a Cochrane systematic review and limited evidence was found in favour of visual
126 search training [10]. Aimola *et al.*, subsequently reported a trial of visual search training for
127 homonymous hemianopia and provided evidence of improved quality of life in the intervention
128 group [11]. Insufficient evidence was found by the Cochrane review relating to prisms as an
129 intervention for hemianopia [10].

130 The National Eye Institute Visual Function Questionnaire-25 (NEI VFQ-25) was designed to measure
131 vision-related quality of life[12]. This outcome tool has been used in several studies to measure
132 quality of life in stroke survivors with visual field loss [13-18]. These studies have all reported
133 subscale scores separately in addition to the composite score having used the NEI VFQ-25 without
134 the additional Neuro-10 supplement (Neuro 10) [19]. This raises the question of whether the Neuro

135 10 supplement is appropriate for assessing outcome in populations experiencing visual field loss due
136 to neurological aetiology. Neuro 10 was developed with the aim of adapting the NEI VFQ to be
137 better targeted to a neurological population [19].. It is important to select an outcome measure
138 instrument that it is both valid and acceptable for the population of interest, which does not include
139 irrelevant questions and considers the burden of completion [20-22].

140 The Visual Impairment after Stroke: Intervention Or Not (VISION) pilot trial sought to evaluate visual
141 search training versus prism therapy versus standard care (control) [23]. In particular, the primary
142 objective of VISION was to estimate the parameters required for the calculation of sample size for a
143 definitive trial. Secondary measures included Rivermead Mobility Index, NEI VFQ-25 (Neuro 10),
144 Nottingham Extended Activities of Daily Living, EuroQol, Short Form-12 questionnaires and Radner
145 reading ability. We previously reported that visual function using the NEI VFQ 25, including the
146 Neuro 10 supplement, improved at 26 weeks in the *visual search training* arm when compared to
147 the *Fresnel prisms* and *standard care* arms, with no evidence of differences across arms with other
148 secondary outcomes [24]. At that stage, a detailed analysis of the subscales of the NEI VFQ-25
149 (Neuro 10) was not conducted. However the data collected from participants within this trial provide
150 a valuable opportunity to explore the subscale analysis and additional information, if any, gained
151 from administering the Neuro 10 supplement in addition to the standard NEI VFQ-25.

152

153 The aims of this analysis were to evaluate where changes occurred within subscales of the NEI VFQ-
154 25 leading to change in the composite score between the three treatment arms and to evaluate the
155 NEI VFQ-25 with and without the Neuro 10 supplement.

156

157 **Methods**

158 Detailed trial methodology has been published elsewhere [23, 24]. Briefly, the VISION trial was a
159 randomised controlled, multicentre pilot trial with NHS research ethical approval (10/H1003/119).

160 Participants were recruited from stroke units based in 14 NHS Trusts and randomised to one of three
161 possible treatment arms: prism therapy, visual search training or standard NHS care.

162 Participants were eligible for inclusion if they met the criteria:

163 a. 18 years of age or older;

164 b. Best corrected visual acuity of 0.5 or better in each eye at distance;

165 c. Stable homonymous hemianopia (partial or complete) induced by recent stroke, defined following
166 WHO guidelines, present over 2 weeks (to exclude rapid recovery cases) but less than 26 weeks prior
167 to randomisation;

168 d. Refractive error within ± 5 Dioptres;

169 e. Willing and able to give consent for the study;

170 f. Prior to stroke able to read and understand English.

171 Participants were not eligible for inclusion if they were:

172 a. unable to consent due to severe cognitive impairment;

173 b. assessed to have ocular motility impairment and/or visual inattention in addition to the visual
174 field impairment; or

175 c. had pre-existent visual field impairment due to previous stroke.

176 Participants eligible for inclusion, and providing consent, attended a baseline assessment, which
177 included assessment and documentation of patient demographics, visual signs and symptoms, visual
178 acuity measures, any additional ocular problems, comorbidity, severity of stroke and level of
179 disability.

180 This study focuses on the data analysis from the NEI VFQ-25 and supplementary Neuro 10. The NEI-
181 VFQ 25 is composed of 12 subscales, 11 of which are vision-related: general health (1 item), general

182 vision (1 item), near vision activities (3 items), distance vision activities (3 items), social functioning
183 (2 items), role limitation (2 items), dependency (3 items), mental health (4 items), driving (3 items),
184 peripheral vision (1 item), colour vision (1 item) and ocular pain (2 items) [12]. The instrument
185 provides an overall composite score by averaging the 11 vision-related subscales. Both composite
186 and subscale scores range from 0 (“worst functioning”) to 100 (“best functioning”) [25]. The Neuro
187 10 is composed of 10 items; tired eyes, bright sunlight, parking a car, using a computer, two eyes
188 seeing differently, eye/lid appearance unusual, blurred vision, trouble focusing on moving objects,
189 binocular double vision and ptosis. While guidelines for the Neuro 10 demonstrate how to merge
190 supplement items with the NEI VFQ-25 to compute an overall score, they do not map onto
191 subscales. The additional Neuro 10 items were included in the existing subscales of the NEI VFQ-25,
192 by consensus using an expert panel, comprising four expert neuro-orthoptists (from the British and
193 Irish Orthoptic Society Stroke and Neuro-rehabilitation Clinical Advisory Group). The expert panel
194 achieved immediate consensus on the classification of seven of the ten items of the Neuro 10
195 supplement into the sub scales of the NEI VFQ-25 (Table 1). The remaining three items were
196 discussed by these experts and consensus agreed during a second discussion.

197

198 A full statistical analysis plan, which rigorously describes the statistical analysis and methods used,
199 was developed and approved prior to the conduction of this analysis. Descriptive analysis was
200 performed with the use of SAS software, version 9.3 (SAS Institute) and according to the intention-
201 to-treat principle. Scores were calculated on patients with data at both time points only, no
202 imputation methods were used. As the VISION trial was not powered to identify differences, and this
203 analysis is on data collected as a secondary outcome, results should be interpreted with caution and
204 are exploratory only. No formal statistical testing was undertaken.

205

206 The analysis of the NEI VFQ-25 (Neuro 10) followed the same principles as in the main analysis of the
207 VISION trial (12, 13). To check the robustness resulting from mapping the additional ten items to the

208 standard NEI VFQ-25, analyses were also performed separately on NEI VFQ-25 data as a sensitivity
209 measure. A clinically significant change was defined as 10 points difference (26, 27). Data from
210 baseline, 26 weeks (final follow up), and the difference between these two time points are
211 presented descriptively overall, and split by treatment arm and subscale. Count data was
212 summarised by counts and percentages. Continuous outcomes are summarised using means and
213 standard deviations since no significant deviations from normality were observed.

214

215 **Results**

216 ***Participants***

217 Between 17 May 2011 and 9 September 2013, 87 participants were recruited from 1171 stroke
218 survivors assessed for eligibility. The reasons for not being eligible and for refusing to consent were
219 recorded and have been published [28]. The 87 participants were randomised, 27 to Fresnel prisms,
220 30 to visual search training and 30 to standard care. Two participants (2.3%) withdrew from data
221 analysis and follow-up; nine (10.3%) from follow-up only and five (5.7%) were lost to follow-up, of
222 which four were from the standard arm. At 26 weeks follow-up, there were 24 (88.9%) in Fresnel
223 prisms, 25 (83.3%) in visual search training and 22 (73.3%) in standard care. NEI VFQ-25 (Neuro 10)
224 data was available at baseline for 83 participants in total; 25 participants in Fresnel prisms, 30 in
225 visual search training and 28 in standard care. At 26 weeks follow-up, NEI VFQ-25 (Neuro 10) data
226 was available for 68 participants in total; 24 participants in Fresnel prisms, 25 in visual search
227 training and 19 in standard care.

228

229 Participant demographic and clinical characteristics of all randomised participants at baseline are
230 outlined fully in the main results paper [24]. There were no notable differences at baseline between
231 the three arms for participant demographics. The population consisted primarily of white (97.6%)
232 males (69.4%) with an average age of 69 years, randomized, on average, at 11 weeks post-stroke

233 stroke. The stroke location was mostly classified as unilateral (43.5% left; 54.1% right), with 47
234 (55.3%) complete and 38 (44.7%) partial homonymous hemianopia.

235 ***Composite scores***

236 The mean (SD) composite score of the NEI VFQ-25 with Neuro 10 from all participants was 63.2
237 (18.3) at baseline and 65.9 (20.5) at 26 weeks follow-up [24]. The mean (SD) composite score of the
238 NEI VFQ-25 without Neuro 10 from all participants was 54.6 (17.7) at baseline and 56.3 (19.6) at 26
239 weeks. The mean (SD) difference across the three treatment arms between baseline and 26 week
240 follow-up with Neuro 10 was 2.6 (15.2) and without Neuro 10 was 1.8 (14.0). The composite scores
241 across the three treatment arms for baseline and 26 weeks follow-up with and without the Neuro 10
242 supplement are outlined in Table 2.

243 Notable differences were present at baseline between the three arms for NEI VFQ-25 data with
244 higher scores for the Fresnel prism arm versus standard care and visual search strategy arms. The
245 average composite without Neuro 10 score (SD) for the Fresnel prism arm at baseline was the
246 highest of the three treatment arms at 59.5 (15.5), with the visual search strategy arm being the
247 lowest at 51.7 (18.8) and standard care being 52.4 (18.3). The average composite with the Neuro 10
248 were consistently higher across the three treatment arms with Fresnel prims arm at 68.5 (16.2),
249 visual search strategy at 59.5 (19.0) and standard care being 61.8 (SD 19.2).

250

251 The remainder of the analysis refers to the NEI VFQ-25 without the Neuro 10 supplement. The only
252 treatment arm to show improvement in the average composite score (SD) was the visual search
253 strategy arm with a mean difference of 7.2 (15.5) at 26 weeks follow-up when compared to baseline,
254 resulting in a composite score of 58.9 (19.2) at 26 weeks. The Fresnel prism and standard care arms
255 dropped slightly by -0.9 (13.1) and -2.1 (11.1) respectively.

256

257 ***Subscale scores***

258 The subscale scores are outlined in Table 3. The most impacted subscale across all treatment arms
259 was driving, with the average score (SD) being 3.5 (15.1) from a maximum score of 14 within this
260 subscale. The least impacted subscale across all three treatment arms was colour vision at 89.8
261 (17.9), followed by ocular pain at 84.9 (22.1), however the score for the latter dropped in the
262 standard care arm at 26 weeks follow-up by 6.6 (23.8).

263

264 The change in scores between baseline and 26 week follow-up is displayed in Figure 1. Overall, the
265 scores across ten of the twelve subscales improved between baseline and 26 weeks follow-up. The
266 remaining two subscales (general health and colour vision) scores deteriorated. None of the changes
267 for the overall cohort exceeded the clinically significant figure of 10. The Fresnel prism arm improved
268 in four subscales (general vision, ocular pain, near activities and peripheral vision) and deteriorated
269 in seven (general health, distance activities, vision-specific social functioning, vision-specific mental
270 health, vision specific role difficulties, vision-specific dependency, colour vision) subscales. None of
271 the changes for the Fresnel prism arm exceeded the clinically significant figure of 10. The visual
272 search strategy arm improved in ten subscales (general vision, ocular pain, near activities, distance
273 activities, vision-specific social functioning, vision-specific mental health, vision-specific role
274 difficulties, vision-specific dependency, driving and peripheral vision) and deteriorated in two
275 subscales (general health and colour vision). The change seen in the distance activities, vision-
276 specific role difficulties and vision-specific dependency subscales exceeded the clinically significant
277 threshold of 10 in the visual search strategy arm; the change in the other subscales did exceed this
278 threshold. The standard care arm improved in two subscales (near activities and vision-specific role
279 difficulties) and deteriorated in seven (general health, general vision, ocular pain, distance activities,
280 vision-specific mental health, vision-specific dependency and colour vision) subscales. The change
281 seen in the vision-specific role difficulties subscale exceeded the clinically significant threshold of 10
282 in the standard care arm; the change in the other subscales did exceed this threshold.

283 Across the three treatment arms there were four instances of an improvement greater than the
284 clinically relevant 10 points. Three were in the visual search strategy arm and one in the standard
285 care arm, across three subscales; distance activities, vision-specific role difficulties and vision-specific
286 dependency. The largest improvement of 15.2 (31.4) was seen in the vision-specific dependency sub-
287 scale for the visual search strategy arm. The visual search strategy arm also showed a large
288 improvement of 10.5 (27.8) in the distance activities subscale. Both the visual search strategy and
289 standard care arms had improvements of 13.6 (25.5) and -10.4 (23.6), respectively in the vision-
290 specific role difficulties subscale.

291

292

293 **Discussion**

294 In this exploratory analysis of the NEI VFQ-25 (with/without the Neuro 10 supplement) composite
295 and subscale scores, we found 1) at all time points, the composite scores with the Neuro 10
296 supplement were consistently higher than scores for the NEI VFQ-25 without Neuro 10 supplement,
297 and, 2) the subscale changes in each of the treatment arms demonstrated that the visual search
298 intervention had a clinically relevant improvement on distance vision and dependency subscales, but
299 not for other subscales.

300

301 The VISION trial asked participants to complete the NEI VFQ-25 with the Neuro 10 supplement;
302 these figures are published alongside other outcome measures elsewhere [24]. The mean composite
303 score when the Neuro 10 supplement was included was systematically higher (63.8 and 65.9) at both
304 baseline and 26 week time points respectively, suggesting consistency in the way it captures aspects
305 of quality of life. A number of the questions included in the Neuro 10 supplement are focused
306 towards ocular motility and central vision problems. The Neuro 10 supplement is recommended for
307 use alongside the NEI VFQ-25 questionnaire in neurological populations. However, the
308 supplementary questions may be suitable for certain populations such as multiple sclerosis where

309 symptoms/signs can also include double vision and eye appearance (reflecting the multiple sclerosis
310 population with which the Neuro 10 supplement was developed [19]). Items such as ‘my eye or
311 eyelid appearance is unusual’ are not associated with post-stroke hemianopia and therefore
312 responders within this cohort were likely to answer this item ‘definitely false’ [19]. Scores obtained
313 using the NEI VFQ-25 (Neuro 10) will therefore be higher than scores obtained using the NEI VFQ-25
314 alone. In addition to the items not being relevant to visual field loss, the inclusion of these additional
315 ten questions for this population potentially results in a higher task burden for the participant and
316 may potentially mask the true impact of the visual field loss. This questions the utility of adding the
317 Neuro 10 supplement to assess vision-related quality of life at specific time points, as well as change
318 in vision-related quality of life over time, when evaluating visual field loss. A future recommendation
319 would be to exclude the Neuro 10 supplement when assessing vision-related quality of life in a
320 population with stroke related visual field loss and using the NEI VFQ-25 only.

321

322 Several studies have previously used the NEI VFQ-25 (without Neuro 10 supplement) in stroke
323 populations with homonymous hemianopia. The composite score calculated in this study of 54.6 (SD
324 17.7) is lower than that reported by other studies. Gall and colleagues reported a composite score of
325 64.93 (SD 16.01) and 63.98 (SD 16.89) in two studies indicating slightly better quality of life than in
326 the VISION trial. However both studies by Gall et al. did have higher proportions (58.2% and 58.4%)
327 of partial hemianopia/quadrantanopia, i.e. less visual field loss [13, 15]. George and colleagues
328 reported a composite score of 63.6 (SD 18.3) similar to those reported by Gall et al., however their
329 study had a higher proportion (62.5%) of complete hemianopia [16]. One study by Papageorgiou and
330 colleagues reported the highest composite score of 77.1 which may be the result of less than 33% of
331 participants having a complete homonymous hemianopia [18].

332

333 Gall et al. and Papageorgiou et al. both reported the NEI VFQ-25 subscale scores [15, 18]. Gall et al.
334 reported nine of the twelve subscales with very similar scores to the findings of this trial [13]. The

335 exceptions to this were near activities at 65.25 (SD 22.69) (18.9 points better than the mean scores
336 in this study); vision-specific social functioning at 74.65 (SD 23.33) (23.7 points better); and driving at
337 27.35 (SD 33.89) (23.9 points better) [13]. Papageorgiou et al. only reported four of the twelve
338 subscales with similar scores to the findings of this trial. The remaining eight subscales were
339 reported to have consistently better scores, ranging from 14.8 to 31.6 points higher than those
340 found by the current trial [18].

341

342 As a cohort, participants were found to improve in all subscales with the exceptions of general
343 health and colour vision, between baseline and 26 weeks. Both of these exceptions were below 10
344 points which is considered to represent clinical relevance [26, 27]. All subscales saw a minor amount
345 of change between baseline and 26-week follow-up. When split by treatment arm some changes
346 were found to have potential clinical relevance. The distance activities, vision-specific mental health
347 and vision-specific dependency subscales all improved by between a mean of 9.6 to 15.2 in the visual
348 search strategy arm. The same subscales had slight deterioration in mean score for the Fresnel prism
349 and standard care arms. The vision-specific role difficulties subscale had a mean score improvement
350 of clinical relevance in both the visual search and standard care arms, whereas the Fresnel prism arm
351 had a slight deterioration in mean score. The peripheral vision subscale showed an improvement in
352 mean score for both the Fresnel prism and visual search arms, whereas the standard care mean
353 score remained unchanged between baseline and 26-week follow up.

354

355 This study is limited as represents a supplementary analysis of a pilot trial that was not powered to
356 identify differences on the VFQ scale. Furthermore, notable differences for NEI VFQ-25 scores at
357 baseline across arms were present (Fresnel prism arm higher than visual search strategy and
358 standard care). However, results presented are consistent with a larger observational study
359 indicating that these are representative of the wider population with post-stroke visual field loss
360 [15]. In addition, unlike other studies, this data was collected as part of a randomised trial in a

361 controlled setting, and therefore adds to the evidence base within the literature and provides scope
362 for further investigation [13, 15, 18]. As such, we would recommend an adequately powered trial is
363 needed to formally compare the differences observed here and to balance for potential differences
364 in scores across treatment arms at baseline and follow-up time points.

365

366 **Conclusion**

367 When using the NEI VFQ-25, improvement over time was noted for the visual search strategy arm
368 specific to distance activities and vision-specific dependency subscales only. Scores differed overall
369 for the NEI VFQ-25 (Neuro 10) versus the NEI VFQ-25. The questions contained in the Neuro 10 may
370 not be appropriate to capture aspects of vision that are deficient in patients with hemianopia. We
371 conclude that the NEI VFQ-25 without the Neuro 10 supplement may be more suited for use with
372 populations with stroke-related visual field loss to capture relevant changes of impact on quality of
373 life.

374

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385

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468 **Table 1: Classification of additional items of the NEI VFQ-25 (10) supplement on to subscales of the NEI VFQ-25**

Item	Discussion 1	Discussion 2	Subscale agreed
1. How much difficulty do you have performing tasks when your eyes are tired?	Consensus not achieved 3 general vision 1 ocular pain	Consensus achieved	General vision
2. Because of your vision, how much difficulty do you have identifying objects or performing tasks in bright sunlight?	Consensus achieved		General vision
3. Because of your vision, how much difficulty do you have parking a car?	Consensus achieved		Driving
4. Because of your vision, how much difficulty do you have using a computer?	Consensus achieved		Near activities
5. I have a feeling that my two eyes see differently, even with correction (glasses or contact lenses)	Consensus achieved		General vision
6. I have a feeling that my eye or eyelid appearance is unusual	Consensus not achieved 2 vision specific social functioning 2 general vision	Consensus achieved	Vision specific social functioning
7. My vision is blurry, not clear, or “fuzzy”	Consensus achieved		General vision
8. I have trouble focusing on or following moving objects	Consensus achieved		General vision
9. I have double vision with both eyes open that is not present when either eye is covered	Consensus achieved		General vision
10. My eyelid(s) droop	Consensus not achieved 2 vision specific social functioning 2 general vision	Consensus achieved	General vision

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473 **Table 2: Composite score summary of visual function questionnaire (NEI VFQ-25) and (NEI VFQ-25 (Neuro 10))**

	NEI VFQ-25				NEI VFQ-25 (10)			
	Treatment				Treatment			
	Fresnel prisms	Visual search strategies	Standard care	Total	Fresnel prisms	Visual search strategies	Standard care	Total
Patients Randomised	26	30	29	85	26	30	29	85
Baseline data	25	30	28	83	25	30	28	83
26 weeks data	24	25	19	68	24	25	19	68
Data at both time points	23	25	19	67	23	25	19	67
Baseline mean (sd) (min, max)	59.5 (15.5) (16.0, 84.6)	51.7 (18.8) (24.6, 82.2)	52.4 (18.3) (24.4, 81.2)	54.6 (17.7) (16.0, 84.6)	68.5 (16.2) (19.8, 93.9)	59.5 (19.0) (32.2, 92.9)	61.8 (19.2) (35.0, 91.0)	63.2 (18.3) (19.8, 93.9)
26 week follow-up assessment mean (sd) (min, max)	58.6 (17.9) (16.0, 88.1)	58.9 (19.2) (18.8, 88.0)	50.3 (21.9) (13.6, 83.2)	56.3 (19.6) (13.6, 88.1)	68.1 (18.8) (18.2, 96.5)	68.4 (20.0) (25.5, 99.2)	59.8 (22.7) (22.9, 95.2)	65.9 (20.5) (18.2, 99.2)
Difference at 26 weeks from baseline mean (sd) 95% CI	-0.9 (13.1) -6.6 to 4.7	7.2 (15.5) 0.8 to 13.6	-2.1 (11.1) -7.4 to 3.3	1.8 (14.0) -1.6 to 5.2	-0.4 (13.7) -6.3 to 5.5	8.9 (16.8) 2.0 to 15.8	-1.9 (12.7) -8.1 to 4.1	2.6 (15.2) -1.1 to 6.4

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Table 3: Subscale scores of visual function questionnaire (NEI VFQ-25)

Clinically significant changes of >10 points difference are indicated by shading

Subscale		Treatment												All treatment arms			
		Fresnel Prisms			Visual Search Strategies			Standard Care									
		n	Baseline mean (SD)	26 weeks mean (SD)	Means difference 95% CI	n	Baseline mean (SD)	26 weeks mean (SD)	Means difference 95% CI	n	Baseline mean (SD)	26 weeks mean (SD)	Means difference 95% CI	n	Baseline mean (SD)	26 weeks mean (SD)	Means difference 95% CI
Overall (Excluding general health)		23	59.5 (15.5)	58.6 (17.9)	-0.9 (13.1) -6.6 to 4.7	25	51.7 (18.8)	58.9 (19.2)	7.2 (15.5) 0.8 to 13.6	19	52.4 (18.3)	50.3 (21.9)	-2.1 (11.1) -7.4 to 3.3	67	54.6 (17.7)	56.3 (19.6)	1.8 (14.0) -1.6 to 5.2
General health		23	55.4 (22.6)	52.2 (21.2)	-3.3 (18.9) -11.4 to 4.9	22	46.6 (24.8)	42.0 (22.3)	-4.5 (27.4) -16.7 to 7.6	19	48.7 (25.6)	43.4 (23.3)	-5.3 (22.9) -16.3 to 5.8	64	50.4 (24.2)	46.1 (22.4)	-4.3 (23.0) -10.0 to 1.4
General vision		23	59.1 (17.6)	61.7 (19.0)	2.6 (18.4) -5.3 to 10.6	23	53.9 (18.5)	60.9 (22.9)	7.0 (19.6) -1.5 to 15.4	19	62.1 (17.5)	60.0 (16.3)	-2.1 (11.3) -7.6 to 3.4	65	58.2 (17.9)	60.9 (19.5)	2.8 (17.3) -1.5 to 7.1
Ocular pain		23	86.4 (21.3)	89.1 (15.7)	2.7 (14.6) -3.6 to 9.0	25	87.0 (20.2)	91.0 (11.7)	4.0 (19.7) -4.1 to 12.1	19	80.3 (25.8)	73.7 (21.6)	-6.6 (24.4) -18.4 to 5.2	67	84.9 (22.1)	85.4 (17.8)	0.6 (19.9) -4.3 to 5.4
Near activities		23	46.1 (20.2)	51.1 (17.5)	5.0 (17.2) -2.5 to 12.4	24	47.1 (20.1)	50.3 (21.1)	3.2 (18.2) -4.5 to 10.9	18	45.9 (19.2)	49.1 (25.1)	3.1 (15.3) -4.5 to 10.7	65	46.4 (19.6)	50.3 (20.8)	3.8 (16.9) -0.4 to 8.0
Distance activities		23	75.4 (22.2)	72.1 (28.5)	-3.3 (24.0) -13.7 to 7.1	25	65.0 (26.3)	75.5 (29.4)	10.5 (27.8) -1.0 to 22.0	19	70.2 (23.9)	65.4 (25.6)	-4.8 (15.0) -12.0 to 2.4	67	70.0 (24.3)	71.5 (28.0)	1.4 (24.2) -4.5 to 7.3
Vision specific	Social functioning	23	56.9 (10.6)	53.6 (16.6)	-3.3 (14.2) -9.4 to 2.9	22	47.9 (15.3)	52.7 (19.7)	4.7 (17.8) -3.2 to 12.6	19	47.4 (16.7)	47.4 (21.9)	0.0 (11.5) -5.5 to 5.5	64	51.0 (14.7)	51.4 (19.2)	0.5 (15.0) -3.3 to 4.2
	Mental health	23	57.1 (25.7)	54.9 (28.3)	-2.2 (21.2) -11.3 to 7.0	25	48.1 (29.3)	57.7 (30.0)	9.6 (21.7) 0.6 to 18.5	19	47.4 (28.4)	41.8 (30.1)	-5.6 (19.4) -15.0 to 3.8	67	51.0 (27.8)	52.2 (29.8)	1.2 (21.6) -4.0 to 6.5
	Role difficulties	22	59.7 (29.1)	53.4 (32.5)	-6.3 (34.4) -21.5 to 9.0	23	48.9 (24.7)	62.5 (28.0)	13.6 (25.5) 2.5 to 24.6	18	39.6 (30.7)	50.0 (32.4)	10.4 (23.6) -1.3 to 22.1	63	50.0 (28.8)	55.8 (30.9)	5.8 (29.4) -1.7 to 13.2
	Dependency	23	71.7 (26.9)	64.5 (31.3)	-7.2 (23.2) -17.3 to 2.8	23	54.7 (36.0)	69.9 (31.3)	15.2 (31.4) 1.6 to 28.8	18	57.4 (32.8)	53.7 (34.3)	-3.7 (19.6) -13.5 to 6.1	64	61.6 (32.5)	63.4 (32.3)	1.8 (27.2) -5.0 to 8.6
Driving		14	9.4 (23.9)	9.2 (23.5)	-0.1 (0.6) -0.5 to 0.2	15	0.0 (0.0)	4.6 (17.8)	4.6 (17.8) -5.2 to 14.4	8	0.0 (0.0)	0.0 (0.0)	0.0 (0.0) 0.0 to 0.0	37	3.5 (15.1)	5.3 (18.3)	1.8 (11.3) -2.0 to 5.6
Color vision		23	93.5 (17.2)	90.2 (22.3)	-3.3 (8.6) -7.0 to 0.5	21	85.7 (18.7)	84.5 (29.0)	-1.2 (26.8) -13.4 to 11.0	17	89.7 (17.8)	86.8 (25.2)	-2.9 (17.4) -11.9 to 6.0	61	89.8 (17.9)	87.3 (25.3)	-2.5 (18.7) -7.2 to 2.3
Peripheral vision		23	48.9 (21.9)	57.6 (23.2)	8.7 (26.8) -2.9 to 20.3	21	47.6 (23.6)	52.4 (26.1)	4.8 (21.8) -5.2 to 14.7	17	50.0 (26.5)	50.0 (26.5)	0.0 (25.0) -12.9 to 12.9	61	48.8 (23.5)	53.7 (24.9)	4.9 (24.5) -1.4 to 11.2

Figure 1: NEI-VFQ excluding 10-item supplement difference in means between baseline and 26 weeks

