Reply to the Comment by Yolcu et al. on Our Paper Entitled 'Evaluation of Choroidal Vascular Changes in Patients with Multiple Sclerosis Using Enhanced Depth Imaging Optical Coherence Tomography'

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Dear Editor

We thank Yolcu and Ilhan [1] for their valuable contributions to our article entitled 'Evaluation of choroidal vascular changes in patients with multiple sclerosis using enhanced depth imaging optical coherence tomography' [2]. In our study, we evaluated the choroidal thickness in multiple sclerosis (MS) patients with enhanced depth imaging optical coherence tomography to provide insight into the potential effects of the disease on vessel structure. We also evaluated the average retinal nerve fiber layer (RNFL) thickness and compared the measurements of MS eyes with optic neuritis (ON; MS ON), MS eyes without ON (MS non-ON) and controls. The average values and the statistical significance of differences between these three groups

have been reported in the text. The authors have wondered whether there is a significant difference between the three groups (control, MS ON and MS non-ON). As we have mentioned in detail in the article, both MS ON and MS non-ON eyes had significantly reduced average-RNFL thickness measurements when compared with healthy controls, and the average-RNFL thickness measurements in MS ON eyes were significantly thinner than those in MS non-ON eyes. We believe that the measurement of RNFL thicknesses might be a useful parameter for the assessment of the axonal loss and for monitoring the effects of demyelination on visual pathway integrity as complementary tools to other functional markers in MS patients.

References

- 1 Yolcu U, Ilhan A: Comment on the paper by Esen et al. entitled 'Evaluation of choroidal vascular changes in patients with multiple sclerosis using enhanced depth imaging optical coherence tomography'. Ophthalmologica. DOI: 10.1159/000442828.
- 2 Esen E, Sizmaz S, Demir T, Demirkiran M, Unal I, Demircan N: Evaluation of choroidal vascular changes in patients with multiple sclerosis using enhanced depth imaging optical coherence tomography. Ophthalmologica. DOI: 10.1159/000441152.