Regarding the article by Kortuem et al. entitled “Comparing Reading Speeds for Reading Standardized Single Sentences and Paragraphs in Patients with Maculopathy” [Ophthalmic Res. DOI: 10.1159/000509687], the authors would like to clarify the following:

In the Methods section, “Reading procedure,” the second paragraph should read:
“The participants were instructed to read each text aloud and fluently without correcting mistakes. Reading time was measured by stopwatch, reading errors were counted for each text and reading speed was calculated as number of correctly read words per minute (wpm). As such, ‘words per minute’ refers to words correctly read per minute throughout the text unless otherwise stated. The instruction by the developer of the Radner texts for measuring reading speed of Radner texts is to count all 14 words of a sentence without subtracting missed or incorrectly read words (Radner, 1998 [1]). We did not apply this instruction in the present study because it was necessary to apply identical conditions to both tests by considering only the correctly read words in order to allow a legitimate comparison of reading speeds between the two different text sets. To allow for the test comparison, we thus had to deviate from the standard instructions on how to use the Radner texts and it is important to note that using different conditions may lead to different results.”

The authors acknowledge that the fact they decided not to follow the exact instructions recommended by the developers of the Radner texts is a potential limitation of their study. The authors would like to note that this study was conducted to investigate a specific scientific question in particular conditions, but not to recommend how to use any of the employed texts.

References