Correspondence

Re: McNabb et al.: Optical coherence tomography accurately measures corneal power change from laser refractive surgery
(Ophthalmology 2015;122:677-86)

TO THE EDITOR: I read with interest the article by McNabb et al1 regarding the measurement of corneal power in eyes that have undergone refractive surgery. One of the study’s limitations was that myopic and hyperopic eyes were analyzed in a single group. It is known that after refractive surgery there is an overestimation of the corneal power in the eyes that had surgery for myopia,2,3 and there is an underestimation of the power of the cornea in eyes that had surgery for hyperopia.4 Evaluating the overall differences in corneal power for both refractive defects may introduce bias in assessing the accuracy of the variations before and after surgery. In the characteristics of the patients examined listed in the article, furthermore, the description of the preoperative refractive error is lacking: statistical analysis was performed by comparing the differences between the refractive changes calculated at the corneal vertex and the variations in corneal power measured by different devices. If, from a statistical point of view, all this is correct, it must be emphasized that it is shown that the underestimation of corneal power in myopic eyes is most evident in eyes with a higher preoperative refractive defect.2,3 I believe the conclusions of the article could cause confusion and be of limited practical use without information about preoperative refractive errors.

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