Author's response to reviews

Title: Effects of glaucoma drugs on ocular hemodynamics in normal tension glaucoma: a randomized trial comparing bimatoprost and latanoprost with dorzolamide [ISRCTN18873428]

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Dear editorial-team:

please find enclosed the latest version of our manuscript entitled "Effects of glaucoma drugs on ocular hemodynamics in normal tension glaucoma: a randomized trial comparing bimatoprost and latanoprost with dorzolamide [ISRCTN18873428]". We made the formatting changes as requested in your e-mail from March, 8th.

Concerning the comment of Professor Flammer we agree that our statistical model might pass some slight effects of the compounds on ocular hemodynamics. On the other hand, effects in a range comparable to that of dorzolamide can be identified by our model. These effects have been shown to be of clinical relevance concerning the progression or recovery of the visual field in glaucoma patients. If we would loosen the conditions for considering an effect as significant (e.g. by skipping the Bonferroni-adjustment) one would take the risk to consider a slight effect as statistically significant which would have no further relevance. Compared to dorzolamide which has reached the status of reference compound for improvement of ocular hemodynamics after local administration the effect of the both prostaglandins appears small. We feel that a changed statistic model would change the conclusion in a way that is not covered by the data. Thus we would kindly like to ask for your understanding that we did not follow Professor Flammer's suggestions at that time.

If further information is required, please do not hesitate to contact me at any time.

With kind regards,

Oliver Zeitz, M.D.
(on behalf of the authors)