Reviewer’s report

Title: Semi-automated quantification of hard exudates in colour fundus photographs diagnosed with diabetic retinopathy

Version: 0 Date: 31 Jul 2017

Reviewer: Tomoaki Murakami

Reviewer's report:

Authors proposed a novel semiautomatic method to detect hard exudates on color fundus photographs. The manuscript is well written, and several concerns are shown below.

1. They stated the priority of their methods comparing to Sasaki’s method. They should show the statistical differences between them.

2. Authors should prepare the subheading for statistics. For the intraobserver or interobserver repeatability, the ICCs would be more suitable.

3. The results suggest that the proposed method had higher sensitivity than the previous one. How was the specificity?

4. There are many misspellings.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

No

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

I recommend additional statistical review
Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Needs some language corrections before being published

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