Dynamic and Static Pupil Changes after Near Work: Comparison between Reading a Book and Using a Smartphone

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INTRODUCTION: Decreased static pupil size due to accommodation is a common clinical finding; however, changes in pupillary dynamic responses after near work activities such as reading a book and using a Smartphone are not well understood.

METHODS: The present study was performed on 76 right eyes of 76 volunteers (mean age: 20.95±2.34 years) who had ocular near activity more than 4 hours per day. The participants were divided into two groups based on the dominant activity, reading a book (group 1) or using a Smartphone (group 2). Evaluation of dynamic and static parameters of the pupil was performed before and after one hour of continuous routine eye activity in both groups and compared. RESULTS: Near work reduced pupil diameter in all static components (p<0.001), the amount of change in the min pupil diameter (p: 0.039) and mesopic pupil diameter (p: 0.043) were different between two groups and were higher in group 1 (both, p<0.05). Dynamic elements showed a decrease in initial diameter, amplitude and velocity of contraction and dilation, and an increase in other components; So that the changes after using Smartphone were significant in all dynamic parameters (all, p<0.05), But reading the book only made a significant difference in the initial diameter, amplitude, and velocity of contraction and duration of dilation (all, p<0.05); the changes were only different in the initial diameter between the two studied groups, which was higher in group 1 (p: 0.047).

DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION: The present study showed that, reading a book and using Smartphone cause changes in the pupil components, which were decreasing in diameter components and velocity of changes and increasing in latency of changes; the type of ocular work may affect the changes.

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