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GLARE

Relevance of glare sensitivity and impairment of visual function among European drivers

Project details	
Domain	Fitness to drive
Duration	from 01/01/2003 until 21/12/2004
Website	http://www.glare.be/
Other sources	 Final report: Relevance of glare sensitivity and impairment of visual function among European drivers (1,01 MB)  Assessment of visual function of driving-licence holders (1,06 MB)

The occurrence of the most important types of visual impairment in European drivers will be determined. The three main visual functions of interest are: visual acuity (the ability to distinguish small detail), visual field (the ability to see things from aside), and glare sensitivity (degree of blinding when exposed to bright lights in the periphery such as a low sun or headlights of oncoming cars at night). These visual functions, in particular glare sensitivity, decline with age. In order to decide if and at what ground (age) to assess specific visual functions for driving licence applications, it is important to determine the prevalence of visual impairment as a function of age.

Currently there are no demands placed upon the glare sensitivity of drivers, even though it is generally accepted as important for traffic safety. The reason is that no standard for such measurement exists. In this project we propose to develop an instrument to measure glare sensitivity for driving licence application and to establish the relation between glare sensitivity and the degree of visual impairment in driving situations.

Coordinator

- [IOI/NORI - The Netherlands Ophthalmic Research Institute](#) (NL)

Partners

- [Centro de Oftalmología Barraquer](#) (ES)
- [Landesclinik für Augenheilkunde und Optometrie, St. Johannis-Spital](#) (AT)
- [Universitäts-Augenklinik](#) (DE)
- [Universitair Ziekenhuis Antwerpen](#) (BE)
- [Vrije Universiteit Medical Center, Dep. of Ophthalmology](#) (NL)