

Review Article

Peripheral Defocus and Myopia Management: A Mini-Review

Nir Erdinest^{1,2}, Naomi London³, Itay Lavy¹, David Berkow⁴, David Landau¹, Yair Morad^{2,5}, Nadav Levinger^{1,6}

Myopia is the most common refractive error in the world, and its' prevalence continually increases. The potential pathological and visual complications of progressive myopia have inspired researchers to study the sources of myopia, axial elongation, and explore modalities to arrest progression. Considerable attention has been given over the past few years to the myopia risk factor known as hyperopic peripheral blur, the focus of this review. The primary theories currently believed to be the cause of myopia, the parameters considered to contribute and influence the effect of peripheral blur, such as the surface retinal area or depth of blur will be discussed. The currently available optical devices designed to provide peripheral myopic defocus will be discussed, including bifocal and progressive addition ophthalmic lenses, peripheral defocus single vision ophthalmic lenses, orthokeratology lenses, and bifocal or multifocal center distance soft lenses, as well as their effectivity as mentioned in the literature to date.

Key Words: Hyperopic peripheral blur, Myopia, Peripheral defocus

Introduction

Contributing factors to myopia progression

Myopia is the most common refractive error worldwide, continuously advancing and spanning the entire literate world [1–3]. Untreated, progressive myopia can lead to complications affecting vision, ocular alignment, and

Received: September 8, 2022 Final revision: December 4, 2022 Accepted: December 26, 2022

Corresponding Author: Naomi London, BSc. Private Practice, 5 Even Israel, Jerusalem 9422805, Israel. Tel: 972-2-500-4333, Fax: 972-2-500-4333, E-mail: imnl4u@gmail.com

physiological blindness [4–7]. Genetic and environmental factors influence myopia occurrence and progression, and some seem to be closely linked to each other [8–12].

Genome and candidate gene-based studies have identified over 600 loci connected to refraction and myopia. Still under investigation, these genes' specific roles and clinical manifestations are not yet completely understood [13], as they often have multiple functions. Genes have been identified to be involved in synaptic transmission, calcium ion binding, cation channel activity, cell-cell adhesions, as well as plasma membrane function [14].

Light-dependent genes may affect the cell cycle and growth pathways. Therefore, lack of outdoor activity and high levels of education, which sometimes may be contiguous, are probably also important contributors [13,14]. An-

© 2023 The Korean Ophthalmological Society

This is an Open Access journal distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution Non-Commercial License (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/) which permits unrestricted non-commercial use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited.

¹Department of Opthalmology, Hadassah-Hebrew University Medical Center, Jerusalem, Israel

²The Myopia Center, Rishon LeZion, Israel

³Private Practice, Jerusalem, Israel

⁴Aston University, Birmingham, UK

⁵Department of Ophthalmology, Assaf Harofeh Medical Center, Zerifin, Israel

⁶Department of Ophthalmology, Enaim Refractive Surgery Center, Jerusalem, Israel

imal models suggest that exposure to sunlight stimulates retinal dopaminergic pathways, which then interfere with eye growth signaling pathways, thereby preventing excessive axial elongation [13]. Excessive and prolonged accommodation is also a possible catalyst for axial elongation by releasing chemical mediators which leads to cellular and biochemical changes in the retina, signaling changes to the choroid, and ultimately scleral and refractive error growth [15]. Hyperopic peripheral blur is an acknowledged risk factor for myopia development, while myopic peripheral blur in the retina may arrest this progression (Fig. 1) [16,17]. In recent years the search for a treatment that will halt myopia progression has yielded several options. Low-concentrated atropine, orthokeratology, bifocal or progressive addition ophthalmic lenses, and soft multifocal centerdistance-peripheral-blur contact lenses have all shown effectivity [12,13,18].

This article will discuss peripheral defocus as it pertains to myopia progression and the optical methods devised to date in an attempt to control it.

Search strategy

A thorough search of the professional literature in Medline, Scopus, and Thomson Reuters Web of Science databases and search engines was conducted. Search terms such as "Peripheral Defocus," or "Peripheral Hyperopic Defocus," or "Relative Peripheral Refraction," and the words "Myopia," "Myopia Progression," "Myopia Management," and "Myopia Control" were entered. The search yielded 137 peer-reviewed articles, and from the references

of those articles, another 17 articles related directly to relative peripheral refraction and myopia progression were identified.

Theories of Relative Peripheral Defocus and of Myopia Progression

The influence of peripheral defocus on eye growth manifested in animal research has encouraged the exploration of optical methods for humans to control myopia progression. Smith et al. [19] ablated 13 rhesus monkeys' foveae using photocoagulation to demonstrate the peripheral retina's role in emmetropization. The refractive state was subsequently monitored using retinoscopy, keratometry, and A-scan ultrasonography. Refractive changes were noted even following foveal ablation [19].

Several studies exhibited the importance of the peripheral retina as the controlling area of defocus that can modify the growth and refractive state of the eye. Specifically, producing peripheral hyperopic defocus can cause axial myopia, whereas peripheral myopic defocus can even lead to axial hyperopia [13,20,21]. Researchers have found the baseline peripheral refraction in isolation does not predict the onset or progression of myopia [13,20,22]. The development of myopia associated with the adjustment from relative peripheral myopia to relative peripheral hyperopia was apparent in a study by Sng et al. [23] on children in Singapore.

There are two primary theories regarding the physiological progression of myopia. One theory hypothesizes that

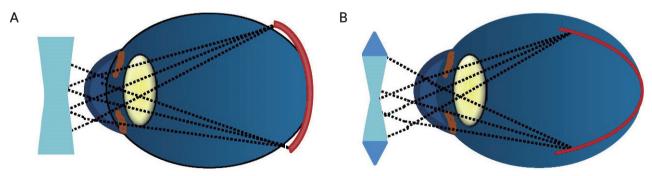


Fig. 1. Myopic correction with single vision contact lenses or single vision spectacles correct myopia at both the fovea and the peripheral retina in equal amounts. This causes the myopic eye's fovea and peripheral retina to be in different myopic states. (A) The peripheral retina is more hyperopic; therefore, equal myopic correction peripherally and centrally is likely to enhance myopia progression. (B) As illustrated, myopic correction with peripheral myopic defocus contact lenses or spectacle lenses correct the full degree of myopia at the fovea but create myopic defocus in the peripheral retina by providing additional positive power in the periphery, thus retarding myopia progression.

hyperopic retinal blur caused by a high lag of accommodation during near work accelerates axial elongation [24–26], and a second theory proposes that mechanical tension created by the ciliary body or crystalline lens restricts equatorial ocular expansion, thereby causing accelerated axial elongation [27].

Animal model studies suggest that form deprivation and retinal blur initiate a signaling cascade that leads to cellular and biochemical changes in the retina and the retinal pigment epithelium [28–31]. These chemical signals are transmitted through the choroid, causing changes in scleral extracellular matrix synthesis, which alters the biomechanical properties of the sclera, leading to ocular growth and a more myopic refraction [32,33]. Animal studies and models have further shown that the choroid plays an active role in emmetropization through thickness modulation to adjust the retina to the focal plane of the eve (choroidal accommodation) and through the release of growth factors that have regulatory scleral extracellular matrix remodeling potential [32,33]. Experimental studies have identified that several biochemical compounds, such as retinal dopamine, retinoic acid, and nitric oxide, are involved in axial length (AL) modulation [34-36].

Possible mechanisms driving axial growth include high levels of retinal blur caused by axial aberrations, form deprivation resulting from poor retinal image quality in distance vision, enhanced accommodative lags over time encouraging compensatory eye growth, and an absence of adequate cues to guide emmetropization [37,38]. While foveal defocus has been discussed as a promoter of myopia progression, which is part of the incentive to prescribed lenses with an addition for near work, the peripheral blur threshold seems to be a more significant influence.

A concept of local control has been raised, namely manipulating the visual environment in one area of the visual field, thereby influencing only the refractive state in the corresponding retinal area. This concept could raise the argument against peripheral defocus affecting refractive error at another location, such as the fovea, the standard location where myopia as well as AL are measured (at the retinal pole) and determined as the communicated measure for progression or lack thereof [39]. Typically, myopic eyes have relative peripheral hyperopic defocus in the horizontal meridian, indicating it may be a potential growth signal; most research measurements are taken only at the horizontal, infrequently at the vertical meridian. One study

measured the peripheral refractive error in five peripheral meridians (up to 40° from the fovea). It concluded that asymmetric profiles seemed to be influenced less by defocus multifocal contact lenses than those with symmetric profiles, especially when skewed temporally or nasally [40–42]. This concurs with a study that presented that patients with asymmetric peripheral refraction were less prone to myopia progression, suggesting they may also be less receptive to changes that induce myopia, such as peripheral defocus [40,41].

A study by Mutti et al. [20] noted that in the 2 to 4 years prior to myopia manifestation there was an increased rate of change towards a negative refractive error, increased AL, and a more hyperopic relative peripheral refractive error (measured at 30° from the fovea). These presentations may assist in predicting the onset of myopia [20].

Peripheral refraction: location and degree

Sensitivity to blur decreases with increased distance from the fovea, which some feel implies that greater magnitudes of defocus are required in the periphery to result in detectable blur. Others contend that just as with accommodation, capable of being stimulated at much lower levels than the depth of focus, the amounts of peripheral defocus may not have to exceed the depth of focus to trigger myopia progression. Additionally, blur sensitivity usually describes the ability to perceive the focus of the image, which requires neural processing. Still inconclusive is the optimal level of blur required to influence eye growth. The feedback loop for emmetropization seems to occur at the retina level, perhaps due to a specific type of ganglion cells [40,41].

While it is also unclear what level of defocus and at what retinal eccentricity might influence foveal refraction, most studies successfully influence eye growth when targeting the area between 20° to 40° from the visual axis. The percentage of the surface area required to affect myopia progression has not yet been determined [40,41].

It is important to appreciate that regardless of the lens type, one that corrects a higher amount of central myopia will result in a more hyperopic peripheral shift than a lower powered lens. Therefore, a higher degree of myopia potentially influences continuation of growth more than a lower degree [22]. As mentioned, undetermined is the degree of blur required to influence this hyperopia or the refractive status of the periphery (emmetropic, myopic, and to what degree); therefore, the amount of addition required in the periphery is also under consideration. So still unestablished is the necessary depth of defocus, how much retinal area of blur is needed to be effective, and whether an image can be too blurry to be effective.

Peripheral defocus optical devices and their effectivity

Single vision (SV) ophthalmic lenses used to correct myopia have been shown to increase hyperopic defocus at the retina's periphery. As the amount of myopia correction increases, so does the peripheral hyperopic defocus magnitude [43].

Optical Devices that Provide Peripheral Defocus and Their Effectivity

Spectacle lenses

1) Bifocal ophthalmic lenses

One of the earliest optical modalities used in an attempt to manage myopia progression is the bifocal lens. In addition to addressing accommodative lag and binocular imbalances, an executive bifocal lens worn over 3 years resulted in a 39% slowing of myopia progression whereas a standard "D" segment bifocal spectacle lens with base-in prism had a 50% treatment effect [43]. Walline [44] conducted a myopia control review where they discovered that both bifocal and multifocal ophthalmic lenses have some effect on controlling myopia but were not sufficient, in his view, to recommend using this modality, even for those with a high accommodative lag and near-point esophoria. The increased positive power for near may potentially have a negative effect on the oculomotor balance in children with orthophoria, reducing myopia progression's effectiveness [45,46]. A trial using a base-in prismatic bifocal lens showed a more significant effect amongst children with low lags of accommodation due to reduced convergence and lens-induced exophoria [44,47]. In the case of the children with a low lag of accommodation, the change in AL over the 3 years for those wearing the prismatic bifocal was 0.46 mm. In contrast, the change in AL in those wearing the standard bifocal was 0.6 mm over the same time period [44].

2) Progressive ophthalmic lenses

A study comparing myopia progression between children wearing SV spectacles and progressive addition lenses (PALs) reported that those with superior myopic defocus (PALs) had significantly less central myopia progression than those with superior hyperopic defocus (SV spectacles) [48]. Studies that compared the use of PALs with SV lenses showed a statistically significant but clinically insignificant change in myopia progression between them of 0.20 diopters (D) over a 3-year period [24,26,48,49]. It should be mentioned that some studies have observed that the children wearing PALs sometimes fail to use the near reading zone for near viewing [50]. The indication of sectorial defocus influencing sectorial AL inspired researchers to develop optical solutions that would provide equal defocus over the entire circumference.

3) Peripheral defocus ophthalmic lenses

An ophthalmic lens with peripheral defocus is limited, as its' effect is potentially altered in primary versus other gaze directions. These designs are the newest module in the myopia management arena to be developed and studied. (Table 1).

An SV lens called the defocus incorporated multiple segments (DIMS) [51], developed at Hong Polytechnic University and manufactured by Hoya, comprises a central optical zone of 9 mm in diameter which corrects the full distance refractive error and has annular multiple focal zones with multiple segments up to 33 mm in diameter with a relative positive power of +3.50 D [40,52]. The diameter of each of these segments is 1.03 mm. Children in one study wearing these lenses for 2 years had an increase in myopia of -0.3 D, whereas children wearing SV lenses had an increase of myopia of -0.93 D. The increase in AL was 0.21 and 0.53 mm, respectively. The strongest effect was noted during the first 6 months of lens wear, possibly due to the higher myopia progression in the SV lens group during this time [40,41].

A PAL named the Apollo lens (Apollo Eyewear) comprises an asymmetrical myopic defocus design with a three-stage myopic defocus zone. These include a+2.50 D full positive power superior zone, an 80% full myopic defocus power nasal zone, and a 60% full myopic defocus power temporal zone [40,52].

Perifocal ophthalmic lenses were assigned to children of 7 to 14 years with progressive myopia from -1.00 to -6.00

D in a study. These lenses allow differentiating correction of the central and peripheral refraction of the eye along the horizontal meridian, thereby correcting or reducing peripheral hyperopia. In the 15° zone, 100% of the eyes formed myopic defocus, which averaged -0.05 ± 0.1 D in temporal 15°, -0.25 ± 0.16 D in nasal 15°, and -0.44 ± 0.03 D in temporal 30°. In the nasal 30° zone, the hyperopic defocus decreased by four times and amounted to 0.38 ± 0.03 D. The rate of myopia progression decreased from 0.80 D of baseline values to 0.17 D at 4 to 5 years of follow-up [53].

Essilor's contribution to the myopia control ophthalmic lens modality is the Myopilux series which includes two designs: (1) an executive bifocal with an add power of +1.50 D and design; (2) the same design with 3 prism D base-in incorporated in the near segment of each lens resulting in a total of 6 prism D base-in in the near segment, named Myopilux Max. This lens is based on research done by Cheng et al. [47].

Recently Essilor also introduced the Stellest lens, which incorporates a central SV center and 11 aspheric lenslets radiating outward. These 11 concentric rings have the distance correction between them and are centered around a 9 mm-diameter clear zone [54]. The power rings create signals in front of the retina which slows eye elongation, a design named Highly Aspherical Lenslet Target (HALT). These lenses do not focus light on two distinct surfaces, but deviate rays of light continuously, creating a three-dimensional quantity of light in front of the retina which they call a volume of myopic defocus. The results of a

1-year study including 170 myopic children were as follows: in the HALT group, myopia progressed by -0.27 D compared to -0.48 D in those wearing SV spectacle lenses (SVL), and the AL change over the same period was 0.13 mm in the HALT group versus 0.36 mm on the SVL group [55]. Both the MiyoSmart (Hoya), slightly aspherical lenses, and the Stellest lens, highly aspherical lenslets, are based on the peripheral retinal defocus theory and both have an effectivity of about 60% [55,56].

Shamir Optical Industry is currently investigating in clinical trials a spectacle lens named MyLens for myopia management. The study compares the rate of myopia progression in children wearing this lens to children wearing a standard spherical or toric single focus ophthalmic lens. The design comprises a unique asphericity. Peripheral refraction and ocular aberration are evaluated. In this study, 61 participants were randomly recruited. The title of the study, which began in January 2016, is called Shamir Aspheric Ophthalmic Lenses (MyLens) for Myopia Control (ClinicalTrials.gov identifier: NCT05477329) [57].

A second study is being conducted in Israel. This is a controlled, double-masked interventional trial where 136 participants have been randomly recruited. The goal is to evaluate the effect of the MyLens compared to a SV lens worn by children in Israel [57]. The test lens is manufactured in a standard freeform design like a standard PAL. The study began in June 2021 and is intended to be a 3-year study [57].

Table 1. Commo	ercially ava	illable ne	ripheral defoci	us design o	onhthalmic le	nses

Trade name	Manufacturer	Single vision/ multifocal	Unique design
MiyoSmart DIMS	Ноуа	Single vision	9 mm optic zone, annular focal zones 33 mm up to +3.50 D
Apollo	Apollo Eyewear	Multifocal (PAL)	Asymmetric peripheral defocus, full power superior, 80% nasal, 60% temporal
MyopiLux	Essilor	Multifocal	Short progressive and high decentration to center designed for children's posture with an addition of 2 D "Max" version is designed for exophores, extra wide near area, and includes 3 prism D base-in for each eye/visible line "Plus" design without prism for esophores
Stellest	Essilor	Single vision	Single vision center, 11 aspheric radiating lenslets HALT
MyoVision	Zeiss	Single vision	Full circumference peripheral defocus
SightGlass Vision DOT	CooperVision	Single vision	Central clear zone surrounded by reduced image contrast

DIMS = defocus incorporated multiple segments; D = diopters; PAL = progressive addition lens; HALT = Highly Aspheric Lenslet Technology.

Contact lens

1) Spherical single vision soft contact lenses versus single vision spectacles

A comparison between peripheral refraction in ophthalmic lenses and standard spherical soft contact lenses (SCLs) has been investigated. While one study found a myopic defocus (when prescribing for full distance refractive error) during SCLs wear [58], most found hyperopic defocus with both correction modalities, whether undercorrected, on-refraction, or overcorrected [59]. Walline et al. [60] examined 247 SCL wearers and 237 spectacle wearers aged 8 to 11 years and found that soft contact lenses did not significantly affect corneal curvature or axial elongation compared to spectacle wearers.

2) Orthokeratology

Corneal reshaping lenses are worn at night while sleeping. They flatten the central cornea while steepening the mid-peripheral cornea, primarily involving the epithelial layer. This reduces the relative peripheral hyperopia, which in turn seems to slow axial elongation. Children that had been wearing orthokeratology lenses over 2 years demonstrated an increase in AL and vitreous chamber depth of an average of 0.14 mm/yr compared to an average growth of 0.27 mm in children that did not wear these lenses. Most studies in this area have shown the overall decrease in myopia progression to be around 50% [10,61,62], a significant impact that can be linked to the peripheral defocus effect

[61–63]. Multiple companies around the globe are producing these lenses with more customized options to treat astigmatism and to better control the treatment zone and peripheral defocus area.

3) Bifocal and multifocal soft contact lenses

Short-term studies on animals and children have presented that soft bifocal contact lens designs can slow myopia progression. To date, peripheral defocus contact lenses have been shown to be superior to peripheral defocus ophthalmic lenses, but studies are being conducted on newer technologies that may reveal new data [36,64]. The combined potential benefit of peripheral defocus contact lenses and their bifocal effect on accommodation has been reported, and investigations continue to substantiate this [33,65–67].

Both concentric ring bifocals and peripheral addition multifocal SCLs have been shown to be clinically effective for decreasing myopia progression in school-aged children, with an overall myopia control rate of 30% to 50% over 2 years. Concentric ring bifocal SCLs seem to have a more significant effect than peripheral addition multifocal SCLs [59]. The Bifocal Lenses in Nearsighted Kids (BLINK) study showed that 51% of the participants progressed more than –1.00 D over a 3-year period compared to those wearing +1.50 D addition and +2.50 D addition multifocal contact lenses who progressed less than –0.85 D and –0.56 D, respectively [68].

Overall, the effect of bifocal SCLs on myopia control in

Table 2. Commercially available contact lenses with a peripheral defocus design

Name	Manufacturer	Replacement frequency	Single vision/ multifocal	Unique design
MiSight	CooperVision	Daily	Dual-focus	Two zones of blur of 2 D
Mylo	Mark'ennovy	Monthly	Multifocal	EDOF
NaturalVue	Visioneering Technologies	Daily	Multifocal	Very high D of peripheral blur up to +20 D at the optic zone edge
Relax*	SwissLens	Quarterly	Multifocal	Polynomial progression in the periphery up to +9 D
RelaxFlex	SwissLens	RGP	Multifocal	Polynomial progression in the periphery up to +9 D
Biofinity	CooperVision	Monthly	Multifocal	Three optional additions
1dayPure	SEED	Daily	Multifocal	Three levels of EDOF
iSight MCL*	GP Specialists	Monthly	Multifocal	Center distance
2weekPure moisture Multistage*†	SEED	Biweekly	Multifocal	Aspheric lens Add +1.50 D center distance lens

D = diopters; EDOF = extended depth of focus; RGP = rigid gas permeable.

^{*}Soft contact lens; †Also known as multistage progressive contact lens.

the literature varies, ranging from 25% to over 70% reduction in myopia progression. Some of these studies report results after only 1 year. The more variable results have been observed with soft bifocal contact lenses in comparison to orthokeratology, which may be due, among other reasons, to differences in lens design, compliance with wearing the contact lenses, or the number of hours of wear [32].

4) Contact lenses designed to manage myopia

In general, increasing addition plus power will increase treatment efficacy and also spread over a larger area of the retina. However, this benefit can sometimes negatively impact vision, such as contrast sensitivity or acuity, and a balance between visual quality and treatment zone size and location engenders the multiple designs emerging over recent years (Table 2) [69–71].

5) Dual-focus design

Commercially known as MiSight (CooperVision), these lenses have a central zone with a diameter of 3.36 mm that corrects the refractive error and concentric treatment zones that create 2.00 D of simultaneous myopic retinal defocus during distance and near viewing. The defocus is comprised of two alternating treatments and two refraction correcting zones causing peripheral defocus on the retina, creating dual-focus viewing. The trial conducted by Anstice and Philips [72] showed that eves wearing these contact lenses had significantly less axial elongation than eyes wearing SV lenses. Following this study, Chamberlain et al. [36] conducted a multicenter study in several countries over 3 years. The refractive error progression in the 1st year was 0.40 D less compared to the control group. In the 2nd year the progression was 0.54 D less, and in the 3rd year 0.73 D less than the control group. The axial elongation change was as follows: at 12 months, the AL change in the control group was 0.24 mm compared to 0.09 mm in the MiSight group; at 24 and 36 months, the AL change was 0.24 and 0.3 2mm less than the control group, respectively. In terms of refraction, the myopia control effect after 3 years was 59% and in terms of AL control, the effect was a 52% decrease [36].

6) Extended depth of focus contact lens

The extended depth of focus lenses used in a study is commercially named Mylo (Mark'ennovy). There are two options of extended depths of focus available, including higher-order aberrations equivalent to additions of +1.75 D (lens no. 3 in the study) and +2.50 D (lens no. 4). When examined after 2 years, the lenses had slowed myopia progression by 32% and 26%, respectively [35].

7) Multifocal with high peripheral blur

The NaturalVue multifocal 1-day contact lens (Visioneering Technologies) has a continuous gradual decrease in myopic power which begins very close to the center of the lens. It is designed to provide approximately 3.5 D of relative plus power at a radius of 2.6 mm and approximately an additional 4 D of relative plus power at 3 mm, continuing at a far more gradual pace till the end of the optic zone. This is the largest degree of peripheral plus power commercially available in a center-distance multifocal contact lens. This lens has exhibited high potential at halting myopia progression in a multicenter case series analysis of 32 patients. Approximately 98% showed a decrease in annual myopia progression, 91% showed a 70% decrease or more, and a few patients exhibited myopia regression [34].

8) Acuvue Abiliti 1-day lens

Johnson & Johnson developed a daily SCL for myopia management. The researchers examined two lens prototypes: enhance efficacy (EE) design and enhance vision (EV) design [73]. The EE was designed to increase myopia control efficacy by introducing a greater amount of plus power than the standard multifocal or dual-focus designs, while still allowing good visual performance [73]. Both lenses were made up of two concentric, annular zones with +7.00 D coaxial plus power to treat myopia [73]. These annuler treatment zones are positioned closer to the lens center in the EE design than the EV design, and the EE design also has an additional +10 D coaxial treatment zone to assist in myopia control without adversely impacting vision [73]. After 6 months of 8 hours of daily wear, the EE lens presented superior results regarding clear visual acuity and myopia control efficacy [73]. The EE lens reduced axial elongation by 0.105 mm compared to the SV lens used in the study after 6 months of wearing the lens [73].

Future Studies

Future studies must clarify several unanswered ques-

tions, for example, which visual regions other than the fovea are most impactful in controlling myopia. Researchers are exploring the impact of influencing AL growth monocularly in cases of anisometropia [74].

A study comparing the efficacy between the DIMS SV lens and the Apollo PAL began in October 2019 and is cur-

Table 3. Summary of the published studies performed with the various modalities

Study	Optical device	Manufacturer	Lens type	Mechanism	Reduced myopia progression
Chamberlain et al. [36]	MiSight	CooperVision	Contact	Dual-focus	59% (over 3 yr vs. SV contact lens)
Sankaridurg et al. [35]	Mylo	Mark'ennovy	Contact	EDOF	30% (over 2 yr vs. SV contact lens)
Cooper et al. [34]	NaturalVue	Visioneering Technologies	Contact	Multifocal	91% showed a decrease of 70% or more 81.25% showed complete halting of progression and 6.25% showed myopic regression (5-yr study)
Russo et al. [82]	Relax	SwissLens	Contact	Multifocal	64.5% reduction in progression
Russo et al. [82]	Biofinity	CooperVision	Contact	Multifocal	43% reduction in progression of myopia and 36% reduction in AL progression over 3 yr
Lan et al. [83]	1dayPure	SEED	Contact	EDOF	33% reduction in myopia progression and 32% reduction in AL growth over 2 yr
Cooper et al. [34]	iSight MCL	GP Specialists	Contact	Ortho "K"	Increase in AL 0.317 mm (2-yr study)
Raffa et al. [84]	2weekPure moisture Multistage	SEED	Contact	Multifocal	38.6% reduction in myopia progression and 31.1% reduction in AL elongation (18-mon study)
Bao et al. [55]	MiyoSmart	Ноуа	Spectacle	Single vision	59% reduction in spherical equivalent and 60% reduction in AL progression (2-yr study)
Li et al. [52]	Apollo	Apollo Eyeware	Spectacle	Multifocal (PAL)	No results yet available
Cheng et al. [47]	Myopilux	Essilor	Spectacle	Multifocal	62% slowing of myopia progression (2-yr study)
Gao et al. [54]	Stellest	Essilor	Spectacle	Single vision	67% reduction in myopia progression and 60% reduction in AL progression (2-yr study)
Kanda et al. [85]	MyoVision	Zeiss	Spectacle	Single vision	Not effective for preventing myopia progression
Resnikoff et al. [75] and Rappon et al. [76]	SightGlass Vision DOT	CooperVision	Spectacle	Single vision	50%–60% reduction in AL increase and 60% reduction in myopia progression (1-yr study)

SV = single vision; EDOF = extended depth of focus; AL = axial length.



Fig. 2. Reduction of myopia progression (RMP) expressed as the percentage of sphere equivalent decrease. A 3-year study: (A) dual-focus MiSight 1 day (CooperVision) and (B) multifocal Biofinity (CooperVision) contact lenses. A 2-year study: extended depth of focus (C) Mylo (Mark'ennovy) and (D) IdayPure (SEED) contact lenses. A 3-year study: (E) single vision MiyoSmart (Hoya), (F) multifocal Myopilux (Essilor), (G) single vision Stellest (Essilor), and (H) single vision MyoVision (Zeiss) spectacle lenses.

rently underway [52]. SightGlass Vision is a clinical-stage research and development company conducting a three-arm trial comparing a novel SV ophthalmic lens design to SV spectacles [75,76]. The Personalized Addition Lenses Clinical Trial (PACT) study is comparing a customized PAL to standard +2.00 D addition PALs and SV lenses [77].

A recent study was published which compared MiSight to two uniquely designed myopia control soft lenses under development. While MiSight is a symmetric design, meaning the prescription and defocus is consistent independent of lens rotation, these lenses are using what the manufacturers (Contaflex 42, Brighten Optix Corp.) call Spatio Temporal Optical Phase (S.T.O.P) technology, whereby the optic zone has rotationally asymmetric power maps which are designed to have varying power distributions along different meridians. The asymmetric design and on-eve rotation provides an optical cue that is dynamic, that is, the areas of induced blur change as the lens rotates on the eve. This dynamic optical presentation showed comparable visual performance, binocular and accommodative function to MiSight, but still has not been compared regarding myopia progression inhibition capabilities [78].

Mutti et al. [20] concluded that the relative slower rate of change after myopia onset in myopia progression, axial elongation, and peripheral hyperopia suggests multiple factors may influence myopia progression. Studies have begun to explore the potential of combination therapies for myopia control, where perhaps each peripheral defocus modality has minimal to moderate benefit, but the combination with another effective alternative modality, such as low-dose atropine, may enhance effectivity [79–81].

While incomplete and still under investigation, the published data to date suggests that after orthokeratology, the most effective soft lens for myopia control is MiSight, manufactured by CooperVision and the two best spectacle lenses are MiyoSmart, manufactured by Hoya, and Stellest, manufactured by Essilor (Table 3 and Fig. 2) [34–36,47,52,54,55,75,76,82–85].

Conclusion

In summary, myopia progression is a complex condition where multiple factors influence each other and treatment effectiveness. This article focused on the peripheral blur signal on the retina. While peripheral myopic defocus has proven to be a potent trigger to decrease myopia progression, the amount of defocus necessary is unclear. One possibility is that there is a dose-response relationship, meaning more significant amounts of defocus result in greater reductions in myopia progression. Another possibility is that any amount of myopic peripheral defocus above some threshold acts as a signal to slow myopia progression and the location is the important factor. Alternatively, or in combination, perhaps more significant reductions in myopia progression are possible as more peripheral locations experience myopic defocus. Factors such as myopia onset's age, myopia's depth, ethnicity, and environmental factors further impact treatment effectivity and the understanding and extrapolation of research data.

Conflicts of Interest: None. Acknowledgements: None. Funding: None.

References

- Matsumura S, Ching-Yu C, Saw SM. Global epidemiology of myopia. In: Ang M, Wong TY, editors. *Updates on myopia*. Springer; 2020. p. 27–51.
- 2. Flanagan J, Fricke T, Morjaria P, Yasmin S. Myopia: a growing epidemic. *Community Eye Health* 2019;32:9.
- 3. Han X, Liu C, Chen Y, He M. Myopia prediction: a systematic review. *Eye (Lond)* 2022;36:921–9.
- 4. Ohno-Matsui K, Jonas JB. Posterior staphyloma in pathologic myopia. *Prog Retin Eye Res* 2019;70:99–109.
- Naidoo KS, Fricke TR, Frick KD, et al. Potential lost productivity resulting from the global burden of myopia: systematic review, meta-analysis, and modeling. *Ophthalmol*ogy 2019;126:338–46.
- Ohno-Matsui K, Jonas JB. Understanding pathologic myopia. In: Ang M, Wong TY, editors. *Updates on myopia*. Springer; 2020. p. 201–18.
- Lee SS, Lingham G, Sanfilippo PG, et al. Incidence and progression of myopia in early adulthood. *JAMA Ophthal*mol 2022;140:162–9.
- 8. Walline JJ, Lindsley KB, Vedula SS, et al. Interventions to slow progression of myopia in children. *Cochrane Database Syst Rev* 2020;1:CD004916.
- 9. Tedja MS, Haarman AE, Meester-Smoor MA, et al. The

- genetics of myopia. In: Ang M, Wong TY, editors. *Updates on myopia*. Springer; 2020. p. 95–132.
- 10. Tang WC, Leung M, Wong AC, et al. Optical interventions for myopia control. In: Ang M, Wong TY, editors. *Updates on myopia*. Springer; 2020. p. 289–305.
- Alvarez-Peregrina C, Villa-Collar C, Martinez-Perez C, et al. Social media impact of myopia research. *Int J Environ Res Public Health* 2022;19:7270.
- 12. Brennan NA, Toubouti YM, Cheng X, Bullimore MA. Efficacy in myopia control. *Prog Retin Eye Res* 2021;83:100923.
- 13. Mak CY, Yam JC, Chen LJ, et al. Epidemiology of myopia and prevention of myopia progression in children in East Asia: a review. *Hong Kong Med J* 2018;24:602–9.
- 14. Nemeth J, Tapaszto B, Aclimandos WA, et al. Update and guidance on management of myopia: European Society of Ophthalmology in cooperation with international myopia institute. *Eur J Ophthalmol* 2021;31:853–83.
- Metlapally R, Wildsoet CF. Scleral mechanisms underlying ocular growth and myopia. *Prog Mol Biol Transl Sci* 2015; 134:241–8.
- Atchison DA, Rosen R. The possible role of peripheral refraction in development of myopia. *Optom Vis Sci* 2016;93: 1042–4.
- Maiello G, Walker L, Bex PJ, Vera-Diaz FA. Blur perception throughout the visual field in myopia and emmetropia. *J Vis* 2017;17:3.
- 18. Morgan IG, Jan CL. China turns to school reform to control the myopia epidemic: a narrative review. *Asia Pac J Ophthalmol (Phila)* 2022;11:27–35.
- 19. Smith EL, Ramamirtham R, Qiao-Grider Y, et al. Effects of foveal ablation on emmetropization and form-deprivation myopia. *Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci* 2007;48:3914–22.
- Mutti DO, Hayes JR, Mitchell GL, et al. Refractive error, axial length, and relative peripheral refractive error before and after the onset of myopia. *Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci* 2007;48:2510–9.
- 21. Benavente-Perez A, Nour A, Troilo D. Axial eye growth and refractive error development can be modified by exposing the peripheral retina to relative myopic or hyperopic defocus. *Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci* 2014;55:6765–73.
- 22. Mutti DO, Sinnott LT, Mitchell GL, et al. Relative peripheral refractive error and the risk of onset and progression of myopia in children. *Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci* 2011;52: 199–205.
- 23. Sng CC, Lin XY, Gazzard G, et al. Change in peripheral refraction over time in Singapore Chinese children. *Invest*

- Ophthalmol Vis Sci 2011;52:7880-7.
- Berntsen DA, Mutti DO, Zadnik K. The effect of bifocal add on accommodative lag in myopic children with high accommodative lag. *Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci* 2010;51: 6104–10.
- 25. Schor C. The influence of interactions between accommodation and convergence on the lag of accommodation. *Ophthalmic Physiol Opt* 1999;19:134–50.
- Berntsen DA, Sinnott LT, Mutti DO, Zadnik K. A randomized trial using progressive addition lenses to evaluate theories of myopia progression in children with a high lag of accommodation. *Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci* 2012;53:640–9.
- 27. Berntsen DA, Mutti DO, Zadnik K. Study of Theories about Myopia Progression (STAMP) design and baseline data. *Optom Vis Sci* 2010;87:823–32.
- Zhang Y, Wildsoet CF. RPE and choroid mechanisms underlying ocular growth and myopia. *Prog Mol Biol Transl Sci* 2015;134:221–40.
- Schippert R, Schaeffel F, Feldkaemper MP. Microarray analysis of retinal gene expression in chicks during imposed myopic defocus. *Mol Vis* 2008;14:1589–99.
- 30. Rymer J, Wildsoet CF. The role of the retinal pigment epithelium in eye growth regulation and myopia: a review. *Vis Neurosci* 2005;22:251–61.
- 31. Zhang Y, Raychaudhuri S, Wildsoet CF. Imposed optical defocus induces isoform-specific up-regulation of TGFβ gene expression in chick retinal pigment epithelium and choroid but not neural retina. *PLoS One* 2016;11:e0155356.
- 32. Moore KE, Benoit JS, Berntsen DA. Spherical soft contact lens designs and peripheral defocus in myopic eyes. *Optom Vis Sci* 2017;94:370–9.
- Paune J, Thivent S, Armengol J, et al. Changes in peripheral refraction, higher-order aberrations, and accommodative lag with a radial refractive gradient contact lens in young myopes. *Eye Contact Lens* 2016;42:380–7.
- Cooper J, O'Connor B, Watanabe R, et al. Case series analysis of myopic progression control with a unique extended depth of focus multifocal contact lens. *Eye Contact Lens* 2018;44:e16–24.
- 35. Sankaridurg P, Bakaraju RC, Naduvilath T, et al. Myopia control with novel central and peripheral plus contact lenses and extended depth of focus contact lenses: 2 year results from a randomised clinical trial. *Ophthalmic Physiol Opt* 2019;39:294–307.
- 36. Chamberlain P, Peixoto-de-Matos SC, Logan NS, et al. A 3-year randomized clinical trial of MiSight lenses for myo-

- pia control. Optom Vis Sci 2019;96:556-67.
- Charman WN. Aberrations and myopia. Ophthalmic Physiol Opt 2005;25:285–301.
- 38. Swiatczak B, Schaeffel F. Emmetropic, but not myopic human eyes distinguish positive defocus from calculated blur. *Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci* 2021;62:14.
- 39. Smith EL, Hung LF, Arumugam B. Visual regulation of refractive development: insights from animal studies. *Eye* (Lond) 2014;28:180–8.
- Lam CS, Tang WC, Tse DY, et al. Defocus incorporated multiple segments (DIMS) spectacle lenses slow myopia progression: a 2-year randomised clinical trial. Br J Ophthalmol 2020;104:363–8.
- 41. Garcia Garcia M, Pusti D, Wahl S, Ohlendorf A. A global approach to describe retinal defocus patterns. *PLoS One* 2019;14:e0213574.
- Berntsen DA, Kramer CE. Peripheral defocus with spherical and multifocal soft contact lenses. *Optom Vis Sci* 2013; 90:1215–24.
- 43. Lin Z, Martinez A, Chen X, et al. Peripheral defocus with single-vision spectacle lenses in myopic children. *Optom Vis Sci* 2010;87:4–9.
- 44. Walline JJ. Myopia control: a review. *Eye Contact Lens* 2016;42:3–8.
- Scheiman M, Gwiazda J, Zhang Q, et al. Longitudinal changes in corneal curvature and its relationship to axial length in the Correction of Myopia Evaluation Trial (COM-ET) cohort. *J Optom* 2016;9:13–21.
- Hou W, Norton TT, Hyman L, et al. Axial elongation in myopic children and its association with myopia progression in the correction of myopia evaluation trial. *Eye Contact Lens* 2018:44:248–59.
- 47. Cheng D, Woo GC, Drobe B, Schmid KL. Effect of bifocal and prismatic bifocal spectacles on myopia progression in children: three-year results of a randomized clinical trial. *JAMA Ophthalmol* 2014;132:258–64.
- 48. Gwiazda J, Hyman L, Hussein M, et al. A randomized clinical trial of progressive addition lenses versus single vision lenses on the progression of myopia in children. *Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci* 2003;44:1492–500.
- COMET Group. Myopia stabilization and associated factors among participants in the Correction of Myopia Evaluation Trial (COMET). *Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci* 2013;54: 7871–84.
- 50. Hasebe S, Nakatsuka C, Hamasaki I, Ohtsuki H. Downward deviation of progressive addition lenses in a myopia

- control trial. Ophthalmic Physiol Opt 2005;25:310-4.
- Lam CS, Tang WC, Lee PH, et al. Myopia control effect of defocus incorporated multiple segments (DIMS) spectacle lens in Chinese children: results of a 3-year follow-up study. *Br J Ophthalmol* 2022;106:1110–4.
- 52. Li Y, Fu Y, Wang K, et al. Evaluating the myopia progression control efficacy of defocus incorporated multiple segments (DIMS) lenses and Apollo progressive addition spectacle lenses (PALs) in 6- to 12-year-old children: study protocol for a prospective, multicenter, randomized controlled trial. *Trials* 2020;21:279.
- 53. Tarutta EP, Proskurina OV, Tarasova NA, et al. Long-term results of perifocal defocus spectacle lens correction in children with progressive myopia. *Vestn Oftalmol* 2019;135: 46–53.
- 54. Gao Y, Lim EW, Yang A, et al. The impact of spectacle lenses for myopia control on visual functions. *Ophthalmic Physiol Opt* 2021;41:1320–31.
- Bao J, Yang A, Huang Y, et al. One-year myopia control efficacy of spectacle lenses with aspherical lenslets. Br J Ophthalmol 2022;106:1171–6.
- Bao J, Huang Y, Li X, et al. Spectacle lenses with aspherical lenslets for myopia control vs single-vision spectacle lenses: a randomized clinical trial. *JAMA Ophthalmol* 2022;140:472–8.
- 57. Erdinest N, Morad Y. Treatments for slowing the progression of myopia. *Harefuah* 2017;156:720–4.
- 58. Backhouse S, Fox S, Ibrahim B, Phillips JR. Peripheral refraction in myopia corrected with spectacles versus contact lenses. *Ophthalmic Physiol Opt* 2012;32:294–303.
- 59. Kang P, Fan Y, Oh K, et al. Effect of single vision soft contact lenses on peripheral refraction. *Optom Vis Sci* 2012;89: 1014–21.
- 60. Walline JJ, Jones LA, Sinnott L, et al. A randomized trial of the effect of soft contact lenses on myopia progression in children. *Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci* 2008;49:4702–6.
- Pancham K, Kalika B. Role of short term open eye OrthoK lens wear in inducing myopia control changes in eyes with moderate myopia. *Indian J Forensic Med Toxicol* 2021;15: 851–7.
- Chang LC, Li FJ, Sun CC, Liao LL. Trajectories of myopia control and orthokeratology compliance among parents with myopic children. *Cont Lens Anterior Eye* 2021;44: 101360.
- 63. Charman WN, Mountford J, Atchison DA, Markwell EL. Peripheral refraction in orthokeratology patients. *Optom*

- Vis Sci 2006:83:641-8.
- 64. Walline JJ, Gaume Giannoni A, Sinnott LT, et al. A randomized trial of soft multifocal contact lenses for myopia control: baseline data and methods. *Optom Vis Sci* 2017; 94:856–66.
- 65. Avetisov SE, Myagkov AV, Egorova AV. Correcting progressive myopia with bifocal contact lenses with central zone for distant vision: changes in accommodation and axial length (a preliminary report). *Vestn Oftalmol* 2019;135: 42–46.
- Nti AN, Berntsen DA. Optical changes and visual performance with orthokeratology. Clin Exp Optom 2020;103:44
- 67. Redondo B, Vera J, Molina R, et al. Changes in accommodation and behavioural performance with a contact lens for myopia management: a comparison between a dual-focus and a single-vision soft contact lens. *Ophthalmic Physiol Opt* 2022;42:753–61.
- Mutti DO, Sinnott LT, Reuter KS, et al. Peripheral refraction and eye lengths in myopic children in the Bifocal Lenses In Nearsighted Kids (BLINK) study. *Transl Vis Sci Technol* 2019;8:17.
- Kang P, McAlinden C, Wildsoet CF. Effects of multifocal soft contact lenses used to slow myopia progression on quality of vision in young adults. *Acta Ophthalmol* 2017; 95:e43–53.
- Schulle KL, Berntsen DA, Sinnott LT, et al. Visual acuity and over-refraction in myopic children fitted with soft multifocal contact lenses. *Optom Vis Sci* 2018;95:292–8.
- 71. Bickle KM, Mitchell GL, Walline JJ. Visual performance with spherical and multifocal contact lenses in a pediatric population. *Optom Vis Sci* 2021;98:483–9.
- 72. Anstice NS, Phillips JR. Effect of dual-focus soft contact lens wear on axial myopia progression in children. *Oph-thalmology* 2011;118:1152–61.
- 73. Cheng X, Xu J, Brennan NA. Randomized trial of soft contact lenses with novel ring focus for controlling myopia progression. *Ophthalmol Sci* 2022;3:100232.
- 74. Chen Z, Zhou J, Qu X, et al. Effects of orthokeratology on axial length growth in myopic anisometropes. *Cont Lens*

- Anterior Eye 2018;41:263-6.
- Resnikoff S, Jonas JB, Friedman D, et al. Myopia: a 21st century public health issue. *Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci* 2019;60:Mi–Mii.
- Rappon J, Woods J, Jones D, Jones LW. Tolerability of novel myopia control spectacle designs. *Invest Ophthalmol Vis* Sci 2019:60:5845.
- 77. Yu X, Zhang B, Bao J, et al. Design, methodology, and baseline data of the Personalized Addition Lenses Clinical Trial (PACT). *Medicine (Baltimore)* 2017;96:e6069.
- Tilia D, Diec J, Ehrmann K, et al. Visual performance and binocular/accommodative function of S.T.O.P. contact lenses compared with MiSight. *Eye Contact Lens* 2022 Oct 31 [Epub]. https://doi.org/10.1097/ICL.0000000000000950.
- Tan Q, Ng AL, Cheng GP, et al. Combined atropine with orthokeratology for myopia control: study design and preliminary results. *Curr Eye Res* 2019;44:671–8.
- 80. Bullimore MA, Richdale K. Myopia control 2020: where are we and where are we heading? *Ophthalmic Physiol Opt* 2020;40:254–70.
- Sanchez-Gonzalez JM, De-Hita-Cantalejo C, Baustita-Llamas MJ, et al. The combined effect of low-dose atropine with orthokeratology in pediatric myopia control: review of the current treatment status for myopia. *J Clin Med* 2020;9:2371.
- 82. Russo A, Boldini A, Romano D, et al. Myopia: mechanisms and strategies to slow down its progression. *J Ophthalmol* 2022;2022:1004977.
- 83. Lan Q, Liu Y, Xu F, et al. Cost-effectiveness of presbyopia correction among seven strategies of bilateral cataract surgery based on a prospective single-blind two-center trial in China. *Ophthalmol Ther* 2022;11:2067–82.
- 84. Raffa LH, Allinjawi K, Sharanjeet-Kaur, et al. Myopia control with soft multifocal contact lenses: 18-month follow-up. *Saudi J Ophthalmol* 2022;35:325–31.
- Kanda H, Oshika T, Hiraoka T, et al. Effect of spectacle lenses designed to reduce relative peripheral hyperopia on myopia progression in Japanese children: a 2-year multicenter randomized controlled trial. *Jpn J Ophthalmol* 2018;62:537–43.