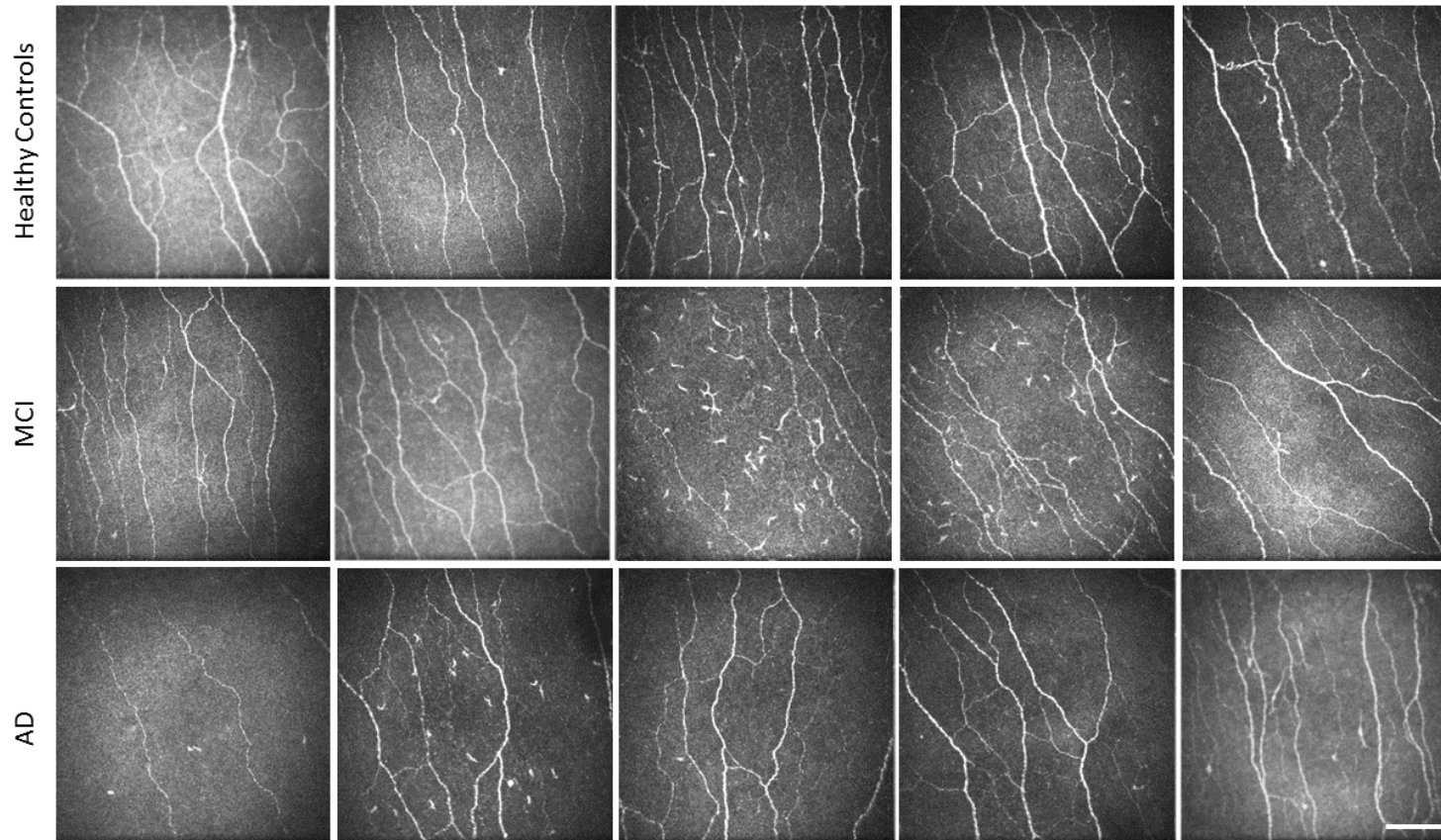


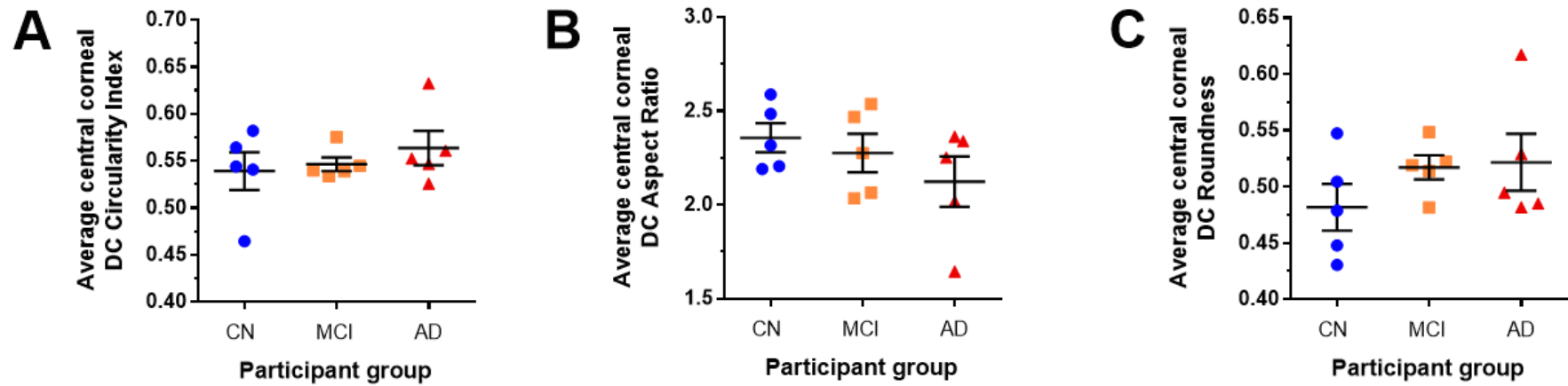
Supplementary Material

Figure S1. Representative IVCM images of the central corneal region, for each study participant.



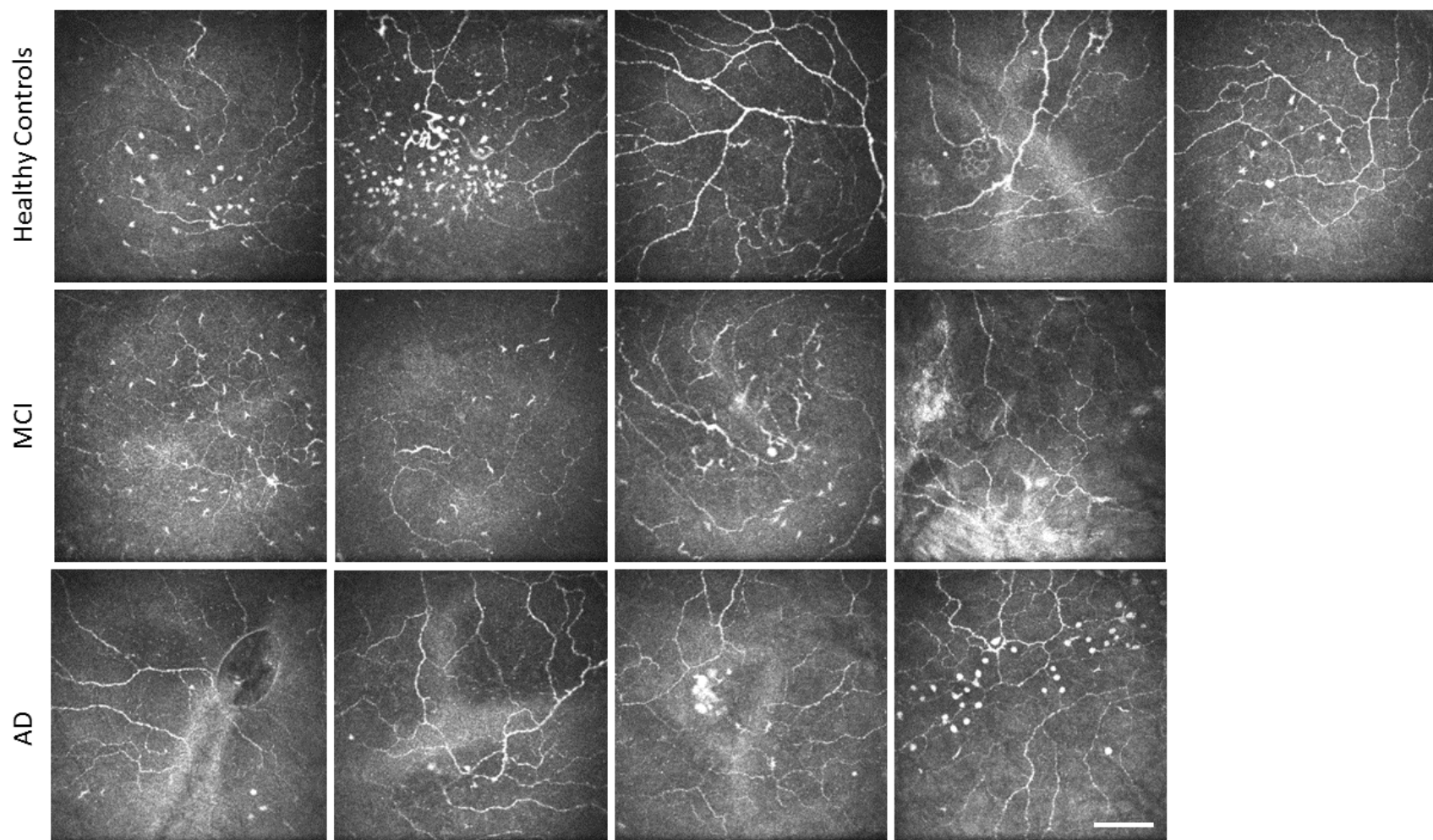
Representative central corneal IVCM images for each study participant, for healthy control (upper row, n=5), MCI (middle row, n=5) and AD (lower row, n=5) participants. Scale bar = 100 μ m and applies to all images.

Figure S2. Additional central corneal dendritic cell parameters



Central corneal DCs had a similar shape with respect to circularity (A), aspect ratio (B) and roundness (C) in cognitive normal (CN), mild cognitive impairment (MCI) and Alzheimer's disease (AD) participants; none of the comparisons were statistically significant ($p > 0.05$ for all comparisons).

Figure S3. Representative IVCM images of the corneal inferior whorl region, for each study participant.



Representative corneal IVCM images of the inferior whorl region for each study participant, for healthy control (upper row, n=5), MCI (middle row, n=4) and AD (lower row, n=4) participants. Scale bar = 100 μ m and applies to all images.

Table S1. Summary of participants' concomitant medications

MEDICATION CATEGORY	CN (n=5)	MCI (n=5)	AD (n=5)
Alimentary			
- Anti-diarrhoeal	-	1	-
- Hyperacidity, reflex and ulcers	3	2	1
Anti-infective			
- Combination anti-viral (hepatitis C)	-	1	-
Cardiovascular			
- Anti-coagulant	2	2	3
- Anti-hypertensive	2	4	3
- Hypolipidaemic	-	2	2
CNS agents			
- Antidepressant	-	-	1
- Anticovulsant	-	1	1
- Cholinesterase inhibitor	-	-	4
- Sedatives/hypnotics	-	-	-
Endocrine and metabolic			
- Agents affecting calcium and bone metabolism	-	-	-
- Gonadal hormones	1	-	1
Genitourinary	1	1	
Musculoskeletal			
- Agent for gout or hyperuricaemia	-	1	1
- Muscle relaxant	-	2	-
- NSAID	-	2	3
- Simple analgesic	-	1	2
Respiratory			
- Preventative aerosols and inhalations	-	1	1
Vitamin supplements / complementary medicines			
- Curcumin	-	1	-
- Ginkgo biloba	1	1	1
- Glucosamine	2	-	2

- Magnesium	1	-	2
- Multivitamin	2	-	-
- Omega-3 fatty acids	1	-	-
- Souvanaid	-	1	4
- Vitamin B12	-	-	1
- Vitamin C	1	-	-
- Vitamin D	3	-	1

Data are presented counts for each categorical variable.

Legend: AD, Alzheimer's disease; CN, cognitive normal; CNS, central nervous system; MCI, mild cognitive impairment; NSAID, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug