

Published in:
Investigative ophthalmology & visual science

Document Version:
Publisher's PDF, also known as Version of record

Queen's University Belfast - Research Portal:
Link to publication record in Queen's University Belfast Research Portal

Publisher rights
© 2016 The Authors. This is an open access article published under a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivs License (https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/), which permits distribution and reproduction for non-commercial purposes, provided the author and source are cited.

General rights
Copyright for the publications made accessible via the Queen's University Belfast Research Portal is retained by the author(s) and / or other copyright owners and it is a condition of accessing these publications that users recognise and abide by the legal requirements associated with these rights.

Take down policy
The Research Portal is Queen's institutional repository that provides access to Queen's research output. Every effort has been made to ensure that content in the Research Portal does not infringe any person's rights, or applicable UK laws. If you discover content in the Research Portal that you believe breaches copyright or violates any law, please contact openaccess@qub.ac.uk.

We read with interest the letter by Hwang et al.,1 titled “A meta-analysis of glaucoma risk in hyperlipidemic individuals: a critical problem in design,” which was written in reply to our recent publication.2 We would like to thank the authors for their response and the additional information it provides.

We agree with Hwang et al.1 that a potential flaw in our study was that we could not fully ascertain if it was statins or hyperlipidemia that reduced the risk of glaucoma or if the effects of hyperlipidemia reduced the observed effect of statins (confounding by indication). Hwang et al.1 have attempted to answer if hyperlipidemia affects the risk of glaucoma. However the included studies in their analysis “…did not refine the effects of hyperlipidemia from those of lipid-lowering drugs.” This is a similar limitation to the one faced in our study. We therefore agree that the effect sizes in both our meta-analyses potentially could be underestimated.

Paul McCann
Ruth E. Hogg
Augusto Azuara-Blanco

Queen’s University Belfast, Centre for Public Health, Institute of Clinical Sciences, Belfast, United Kingdom.
E-mail: pmccann45@qub.ac.uk

References

Citation: Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci. 2016;57:6341.
doi:10.1167/iovs.16-20233