

1 **TITLE PAGE**

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3 REPEATABILITY OF NONINVASIVE KERATOGRAPH 5M

4 MEASUREMENTS ASSOCIATED WITH CONTACT LENS WEAR.

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6 **Running short title:**

7 REPEATABILITY OF KERATOGRAPH 5M WITH CONTACT LENSES

8

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46 **ABSTRACT**

47 Objective: to assess the intra-rater repeatability of the measurements of tear meniscus  
48 height (TMH), noninvasive Keratograph tear breakup time (NIK BUTs) and ocular redness  
49 measurements obtained with the Keratograph 5M (K5M) in a sample of soft silicone  
50 hydrogel CL wearers over 15 days.

51 Methods: prospective study over two consecutive weeks. Three measurements of TMH,  
52 NIK BUTs (NIK BUT-first and NIK BUT-average) and ocular redness were obtained in different  
53 sessions; the first day (baseline, at 8 hours of wear, and after lens removal) and the last day  
54 of wear -15th day (at 8 hours of wear and after lens removal). The repeatability of  
55 measurements were assessed by two intraclass correlation coefficient (ICC) forms; single  
56 measurement [ICC (2,1)] and multiple measurements (k=3) [ICC (2, k)].

57 Results: The repeatability of baseline TMH [ICC (2,1) >0.90 ; CR=0.06 mm] and after and  
58 during CL wear [ICC (2,k) >0.90 ; CR≤0.07 mm] were excellent. The repeatability of baseline  
59 NIK BUT-average [ICC (2,k) =0.89 (0.82 to 0.93) ; CR=6.07 sc] was maintained after CL  
60 removal, but was poorer during CL wear. The repeatability of baseline NIK BUT-first [ICC (2,k)  
61 =0.80 (0.69 to 0.87) ; CR=8.74 sc] was maintained after CL removal and during CL wear at  
62 moderate-good level.

63 Conclusions: Intra-rater repeatability of TMH, NIK BUTs and ocular redness performed by  
64 K5M after CL wear remain stable when three measurements are performed. However, intra-  
65 rater repeatability during CL wear decreased only for NIK BUT average and was not affected  
66 by time of use (15 days).

67

68 **Keywords:** Keratograph 5M ; repeatability; contact lens ; tear film

69 **TEXT**

70 Several biophysical tear film and ocular surface changes have been associated with contact  
71 lens (CL) wear.<sup>1</sup> Prior to fitting with CL there are a number of tests available to the  
72 practitioner to assess the tear film and ocular surface in order to study the suitability of  
73 adaptation. The Oculus Keratograph 5M (K5M) (Oculus, Wetzlar, Germany) is a corneal  
74 topographer with multiple non-invasive features that analyzes the ocular surface, including  
75 tear meniscus height (TMH), non-invasive keratograph break-up time (NIK BUT) and bulbar  
76 and limbal hyperemia assessment.

77 It has been suggested that NIK BUT can be used as a tool to assess pre-corneal and pre-lens  
78 tear film quality for prescribing CL in order to study the tear film stability.<sup>2</sup> Likewise, it is  
79 important not to forget bulbar and limbal redness in contact lens wearers when redness is  
80 related to the extent of oxygen transmissibility of contact lens materials and may indicate  
81 corneal hypoxia.<sup>3, 4</sup>

82 Therefore, clinical measures need to be repeatable in order to work in clinical-diagnostic  
83 quality environments. Reliability refers to the repeatability or precision of measurement,  
84 while repeatability is defined as the degree of proximity of scores obtained under similar  
85 conditions.<sup>5</sup>

86 The intra-rater repeatability of K5M (Oculus, Wetzlar, Germany) evaluation has been  
87 validated in previous studies in healthy eyes<sup>6-9</sup> and in dry eyes.<sup>8, 10</sup> The repeatability of the  
88 parameters evaluated by the K5M is an essential requirement for use of the latter as a  
89 diagnostic tool or in the follow-up of interventions or ocular surface alterations (refractive  
90 surgery, dry eye).

91 However, we have found no studies that validate intra-rater repeatability in the  
92 management of contact lens patients. In addition, establishing the number of measures to

93 be performed in a single assessment to ensure an acceptable level of repeatability of scores  
94 is another issue considered.<sup>11</sup>

95 Accordingly, the aim of current study was to assess the intra-rater repeatability of  
96 measurements for TMH, NIKBUTs and ocular redness in healthy subjects with soft silicone  
97 hydrogel (Si-Hy) CL wear.

98

## 99 **MATERIAL AND METHODS**

100 A prospective study was carried out at the Faculty of Optics and Optometry of the  
101 Complutense University of Madrid. It was reviewed and approved by the Institutional  
102 Review Board of the Optometry Clinic, and all the procedures complied with the ethical  
103 principles of the Declaration of Helsinki. Informed consent was obtained from all patients  
104 once the purpose and possible consequences of the study had been explained to them.  
105 Inclusion criteria were to be current contact lens wearers, in the age range from 18 to 40  
106 years. Exclusion criteria included an active ocular allergy, refractive surgery, dry eye or  
107 systemic medication known to affect tear film production.

108 The study was carried out using a commercial monthly-soft Si-Hy contact lens. All the  
109 participants underwent imaging with the Keratograph 5M<sup>®</sup> (K5M; Oculus ,Wetzlar,  
110 Germany), an advanced corneal topographer with a built-in real keratometer and a color  
111 camera optimized for external imaging equipped with a modified tear film scanning  
112 function. Three measurements of the TMH, the first break of non-invasive Keratograph tear  
113 breakup time (NIK BUT first), average break of non-invasive Keratograph tear breakup time  
114 (NIK BUT average) and ocular redness were automatically obtained using Oculus K5M  
115 software according to the manufacturer's instructions. Ocular redness scores were analyzed

116 by R-scan software and the automated redness scores evaluated were: nasal limbal redness  
117 (NLR), temporal limbal redness (TLR), nasal bulbar redness (NBR) and temporal bulbar  
118 redness (TBR).

119 The study was conducted over two consecutive weeks. Previously one week of washout  
120 without any contact lens was required to participants. Measurements were taken in  
121 different sessions on the first and last day of wear (15 days). On the first day of wear,  
122 measurements were taken before contact lens insertion (baseline), at 8 hours of wear, and  
123 after the lens was removed. On the last day of wear (after 15 days of use), measurements  
124 were taken at 8 hours of wear and after the lens was removed. Measurements without  
125 contact lenses were registered 20 minutes after lens removal. The repeatability results were  
126 divided into three groups; baseline conditions, without the contact lens after 1 day and 15  
127 days of use and during contact lens wear, at 8 hours of use on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 15th days. Only  
128 data from the right eye was used for statistical analysis.

129 Clinical examination was performed in the following order to minimize the effect of the  
130 assessment <sup>12</sup> : TMH , ocular redness and NIKBUTs (NIK BUT first, NIK BUT average).

131 The TMH score was obtained by the examiner from the registered image. NIKBUTs scores  
132 were obtained directly from the device. Ocular redness was obtained with the R-Scan  
133 software of the Keratograph 5M. The R-Scan is a module that automatically and objectively  
134 classifies the bulbar and limbal degree of redness. The R-Scan detects the blood vessels in  
135 the conjunctiva and evaluates the degree of redness according the JENVIS grading scale.<sup>13</sup>

136 All the measurements were taken by the same examiner in a room with controlled  
137 temperature (24±1°C) and humidity (39%±2%). All subjects used the same contact lens  
138 solutions (Optifree Express Mds, Alcon Laboratories, Inc., Fort Worth, TX, USA).

139 Under repeatability conditions, independent test results were obtained using the same  
140 method, the same subject, the same examiner, and the same equipment with the shortest  
141 time possible between successive TMH and ocular redness readings. NIKBUT first and  
142 NIKBUT average readings were taken with an interval of at least 120 seconds. Repeatability  
143 was assessed by performing 3 examinations of 64 eyes in the various sessions.

144 The statistical analysis was performed using SPSS statistical package version 23 (SPSS Inc,  
145 Chicago, IL, USA). The intra-rater repeatability for each parameter evaluated was assessed  
146 by means of repeated measures analysis of variance (ANOVA) and statistical parameters  
147 including the following statistical variables: within-subject standard deviation (Sw),  
148 coefficient of repeatability (CR), within-subject coefficient of variation (CoV), intrasubject  
149 precision, intraclass correlation coefficient (ICC) and their 95% confident intervals.

150 Two ICC were calculated based on two ICC forms; two-way random effects, absolute  
151 agreement and single measurement [ICC (2,1)] and two-way random effects, absolute  
152 agreement and multiple measurements (k=3) [ICC (2, k)]. The ICC type (single measurement  
153 or average of measurements) provide results based on the number of measurements to be  
154 performed.

155 The ICC (ranging from 0 to 1) assesses the consistency for data sets of repeated  
156 measurements within sessions.<sup>14, 15</sup> The closer the ICC is to 1, the better the measurement  
157 consistency indicating that total variation in measurements is due solely to variability in the  
158 parameter being measured. The 95% confident interval of the ICC estimate (not the ICC  
159 estimate itself) should be used as the basis to evaluate the level of reliability. There are  
160 different scales to identify the value that indicates acceptable clinical reliability.<sup>5, 16</sup> ICC  
161 values below 0.5 can be indicative of poor reliability, values between 0.5 and 0.75 indicate

162 moderate reliability, values between 0.75 and 0.9 indicate good reliability, and values above  
163 0.90 indicate excellent reliability.<sup>15, 17</sup>

164 The within-subject standard deviation ( $S_w$ ) is a simple way of estimating the standard  
165 deviation of repeated measurements. The CoV was calculated as the ratio of the  $S_w$  to the  
166 overall mean and estimates the amount of variation seen between repeated measures  
167 taken from the same individual at different time points. A smaller CoV means that the  
168 repeatability is higher. The intrasubject precision was defined as  $1.96 \times S_w$ , which indicated  
169 the size of the range of error of the repeated measurements for 95% of observations. The  
170 coefficient of repeatability (CR) was calculated using the within-session standard deviation  
171 ( $S_w$ ) of  $1.96 \times \sqrt{2 \times S_w^2}$  or  $2.77 \times S_w$ <sup>15</sup>, which indicated the interval within which 95% of the  
172 differences between measurements are expected to lie.

173

## 174 **RESULTS**

### 175 Descriptive Statistics

176 Sixty-four subjects (48 men and 16 women; mean age  $26.3 \pm 2.5$  years; age range 21 to 32  
177 years) were enrolled and all the protocols in each session were followed. The baseline  
178 descriptive statistics for TMH, NIKBUT first, NIKBUT average, NLR, TLR, NBR and TBR were  
179  $0.28 \pm 0.01$  mm,  $10.56 \pm 7.02$  sec,  $12.74 \pm 6.54$  sec,  $0.73 \pm 0.42$ ,  $0.46 \pm 0.27$ ,  $1.12 \pm 0.44$  and  
180  $0.68 \pm 0.28$  respectively. The descriptive statistics obtained in different sessions are  
181 summarized in tables 2 and 3.

### 182 Intra-rater repeatability under baseline conditions

183 The level of reliability considering ICC type single measurement can be regarded as excellent  
184 for TMH measurements [ICC 0.95 (95% CI = 0.92 to 0.96); CR=0.06], as good to excellent for  
185 NBR [ICC 0.89 (95% CI = 0.84 to 0.93); CR=0.41] and NLR [ICC 0.87 (95% CI = 0.81 to 0.91);



186 CR=0.42], as moderate to good for TBR [ICC 0.78 (95% CI = 0.69 to 0.85); CR=0.37] , TLR [ICC  
187 0.75 (95% CI = 0.65 to 0.83); CR=0.38] and NIKBUT average [ICC 0.73 (95% CI = 0.61 to 0.82);  
188 CR=9.51], and finally as poor to moderate for NIKBUT first [ICC 0.57 (95% CI = 0.43 to 0.69);  
189 CR=12.77].

190 The level of reliability considering ICC type average measurement for NIKBUT first can be  
191 regarded as moderate to good [ICC 0.80 (95% CI = 0.69 to 0.87); CR=8.74].

192 Table 1 shows the results of repeatability analysis under baseline conditions.

### 193 Intra-rater repeatability after CL removal

194 Table 2 shows the results of the reliability index measured with the K5M without the  
195 contact lens after 1 day and 15 days of use.

196 The TMH repeatability was slightly poorer for ICC single values classified as good to excellent  
197 for both sessions: first and fifteenth day. However, the coefficient of repeatability was 0.12  
198 mm and 0.06 mm on day 1 and on day 15 respectively.

199 Ocular redness repeatability on day 15 considering ICC type average measurement can be  
200 regarded as excellent for NLR [ICC 0.97 (95% CI = 0.95 to 0.98); CR=0.25], TLR [ICC 0.97 (95%  
201 CI = 0.96 to 0.98); CR=0.15], NBR [ICC 0.96 (95% CI = 0.94 to 0.98); CR=0.23] and TBR [ICC  
202 0.97 (95% CI = 0.95 to 0.98); CR=0.16].

203 The level of reliability considering ICC type single measurement for NIKBUT first on day 1  
204 and on day 15 were [ICC 0.46 (95% CI = 0.29 to 0.62); CR=12.25] and [ICC 0.48 (95% CI = 0.32  
205 to 0.63); CR=12.75] respectively. Both of them can be regarded as poor to moderate.

### 206 Intra-rater repeatability during contact lens wear

207 Table 3 shows the results of reliability scores measured during contact lens wear, at 8 hours  
208 of use on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> days.

209 The level of reliability considering ICC type average measurement can be regarded as  
210 excellent for TMH measurements on day 1 and day 15 [ICC 0.97 (95% CI = 0.95 to 0.98);  
211 CR=0.05] and [ICC 0.96 (95% CI = 0.95 to 0.98); CR=0.04] respectively.

212 The level of reliability considering ICC type average measurement can be regarded as  
213 moderate to good for NIKBUT first, on day 1 [ICC 0.67 (95% CI = 0.50 to 0.79); CR=10.74] and  
214 on day 15 [ICC 0.73 (95% CI = 0.58 to 0.83); CR=9.31], and also for NIKBUT average, on day  
215 15 [ICC 0.70 (95% CI = 0.54 to 0.82); CR=7.40]. Regarding NIKBUT average, on day 1 the  
216 reliability index was [ICC 0.63 (95% CI = 0.43 to 0.77); CR=8.56] classified as poor to  
217 moderate.

218

## 219 **DISCUSSION**

220 Several studies have revealed the impact on ocular surface and tear film stability of Si-Hy CL  
221 wear and have also reported changes in TMH<sup>18,19</sup>, NIKBUTs<sup>19-21</sup> and bulbar redness<sup>19</sup>. Non  
222 - or minimally invasive and objective tests have a major advantage over more invasive and  
223 subjective techniques to assess ocular surface parameters. Therefore, it is crucial to  
224 establish the degree of repeatability of the measures.

225 In the current study, the TMH, NIKBUTs and ocular redness were measured using K5M in  
226 monthly Si-Hy contact lens-wearing patients. To the best of our knowledge, this is the first  
227 study to assess the repeatability of TMH, NIKBUTs and ocular redness measured by K5M in  
228 monthly Sy-Hy contact lens-wearing patients over two weeks.

229 Previous studies have reported the repeatability index of K5M parameters (TMH, NIKBUTs  
230 and redness) in healthy eyes without contact lens. Tian et al. 2016<sup>8</sup> studied the repeatability  
231 of TMH and NIKBUTs scores in healthy population (n=42). They reported ICC values of 0.84  
232 (95% CI = 0.75 to 0.90) and values of CR=0.14 mm for TMH scores. This ICC score can be

233 classified as moderate to excellent. In reference to NIKBUTs scores, the limit of repeatability  
234 for NIKBUT first and NIKBUT average were 5.24 sc and 5.60 sc respectively. Other authors  
235 found poorer repeatability limits for NIKBUTs scores; Markoulli et al. 2018 <sup>7</sup> concluded that  
236 the coefficient of repeatability of NIKBUT first and NIKBUT average were 13.96 sc and 11.37  
237 sc respectively, and Fernandez et al 2018 <sup>6</sup> found limits of agreement for NIKBUT first and  
238 NIKBUT average of 13.46 sc and 10.34 sc respectively.

239 Regarding ocular redness, Wu et al. 2015 <sup>9</sup> studied repeatability of bulbar redness in 30 eyes  
240 and observed values of ICC= 0.947.

241 Our results under baseline conditions are in agreement with those previously reported,  
242 although with some considerations. Firstly, the TMH repeatability levels are better. TMH  
243 measurement revealed an excellent level of repeatability and would enable a single TMH  
244 measurement in clinical protocols maintaining those levels. In this case, changes below 0.06  
245 mm (CR = 0.06) should not be considered clinical changes.

246 Secondly, in order to maintain values of excellence (ICC> 0.90) in terms of redness scores,  
247 three measurements need to be taken, with the NLR and NBR variables able to achieve  
248 those levels.

249 And finally, the level of repeatability of NIKBUT average was classified as moderate to  
250 excellent with CR = 6.07 sc based on three measurements. In case of only one  
251 measurement, the CR increased to values of 9.51 sc. Therefore, we recommend taking into  
252 consideration the ICC obtained, but giving special attention to the precision values and  
253 repeatability coefficients. Hence, if taking only one measure of NIKBUT average, it should be  
254 noted that changes of less than 9.51 sc cannot be justified as significant clinical changes.

255 The NIKBUT first is the parameter with the poorest repeatability. We recommend  
256 performing at least 3 measurements, which ensures a moderate to good level with a CR of  
257 13.78 sc and a coefficient of variation of 29.87%.

258 Despite the good reliability results in healthy eyes, some authors have studied reliability in  
259 dry eyes. Tian et al 2016 reported that in dry eyes the NIKBUTs were more reliable, but TMH  
260 was less reliable in patients with DED. <sup>8</sup> On the other hand, Baek et al. 2015 concluded that  
261 K5M was a useful non-invasive tool in the evaluation of the TMH in patients with dry eye  
262 syndrome, publishing CR values of 0.04 mm. <sup>10</sup>

263 These results show that changes in the ocular surface can cause changes in the repeatability  
264 of the measurements. In addition, wearing contact lenses implies an interaction between  
265 the lens and the ocular surface. Therefore, to validate intra-rater repeatability of K5M in the  
266 management of contact lens patients is relevant.

267 The current study addresses two aspects; firstly if contact lens wear can induce changes in  
268 the ocular surface that affect the levels of repeatability, and secondly, if contact lenses and  
269 the time of use affect the repeatability index.

270 After contact lens removal (table 2) the ICC average measure [ICC (2, k)] remained with the  
271 same rating (excellent, moderate, good and poor) as under baseline conditions.

272 In the case of TMH, three measurements should ideally be taken when this parameter is  
273 being evaluated after contact lens removal. This ensures that the levels of TMH repeatability  
274 will be the same as those obtained with a single measurement [ICC (2,1)] under baseline  
275 conditions.

276 These results suggest that contact lens wear and time of wear does not induce changes in  
277 the analyzed variables that affect the K5M repeatability.

278 In terms of reliability index during contact lens wear (table 3), our results suggest the  
279 advisability of performing 3 measurements while the TMH, NIKBUT first and ocular redness  
280 kept the same [ICC (2, k)] rating. However the repeatability of NIKBUT average decreased.  
281 The ICC average measure [ICC (2, k)] levels decreased in two grades, going from good-  
282 excellent under baseline conditions to poor-good during CL wear. Despite the loss of  
283 repeatability of the NIKBUT average, it has been observed that [ICC (2, k)] on the 15<sup>th</sup> day is  
284 better than on the first day. This indicates that CL can be an artifact for the NIKBUT average  
285 measurement during CL wear, while time of CL use is not an influencing factor (15 days).  
286 These results are particularly interesting, because the NIKBUT average measurement is a  
287 major variable in the management of CL wear.

288 In a recent study, the authors aimed to ascertain whether the additional information on tear  
289 film stability assessed using NIKBUT could contribute towards an improved assessment of  
290 the prescribed CL. The authors suggest that this may certainly help to choose the most  
291 suitable CL in cases where comfort and fitting are equally good. <sup>2</sup>

292 Use of the repeatability coefficients is recommended to establish the limits of the  
293 instrument itself, which differ under the conditions studied (baseline, after CL removal and  
294 during CL wear).

295 However, in our study design with 3 repeated measures ( $n'=3$ ) and a sample of 64 ( $n=64$ ),  
296 there is at least 12.25% uncertainty in the repeatability results. From a practical viewpoint, a  
297 small sample might restrict the range of values over which precision is tested and bias the  
298 result in terms of the variation in the population as some individuals might have more  
299 variation than others. Therefore, a large sample is advocated in instrument precision studies  
300 to ensure that instrument precision is adequately assessed over a greater range of  
301 measurement. <sup>22</sup> Thus, in order to increase the percentage of certainty in the repeatability

302 results it is necessary to increase the efforts in the validity and reliability studies on the  
303 management of CL wear.

304 With lens wear, the tear film undergoes extensive biophysical and biochemical changes,  
305 which have the potential to influence tear function and/or contact lens tolerance.<sup>23</sup>

306 Therefore, the measurement, recording and monitoring of ocular surface parameters are  
307 important in the management of contact lens wear.

308 According to our study, intra-rater repeatability of K5M for TMH, NIKBUTs and ocular  
309 redness after CL wear remained stable when three measurements were performed.

310 However, intra-rater repeatability during CL wear decreased only for NIKBUT average and  
311 was not affected by time of use (15 days).

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Table 1. Intra-rater repeatability of K5M parameters under baseline conditions considering two intraclass correlation coefficient types: single measurement and average of measurements.

	Baseline														
			ICC single measure						ICC average measures						
	Mean	SD	ICC	95% CI for ICC	Sw	CoV(Sw)%	Precision	CR	ICC	95% CI for ICC	Sw	CoV(Sw)%	Precision	CR	Dif CoV(%)
TMH(mm)	0.28	0.01	0.95	0.92 to 0.96	0.02	8.03	0.04	0.06	0.98	0.97 to 0.99	0.01	4.74	0.03	0.04	3.29
NIK BUT first (sc)	10.56	7.02	0.57	0.43 to 0.69	4.61	43.66	9.03	12.77	0.80	0.69 to 0.87	3.15	29.87	6.18	8.74	13.78
NIK BUT average (sc)	12.74	6.54	0.73	0.61 to 0.82	3.43	26.94	6.73	9.51	0.89	0.82 to 0.93	2.19	17.20	4.29	6.07	9.74
NLR	0.73	0.42	0.87	0.81 to 0.91	0.15	20.47	0.29	0.42	0.95	0.93 to 0.97	0.09	12.39	0.18	0.25	8.08
TLR	0.46	0.27	0.75	0.65 to 0.83	0.14	30.17	0.27	0.38	0.90	0.85 to 0.94	0.09	19.07	0.17	0.24	11.10
NBR	1.12	0.44	0.89	0.84 to 0.93	0.15	13.01	0.29	0.41	0.96	0.94 to 0.97	0.09	7.82	0.17	0.24	5.19
TBR	0.68	0.28	0.78	0.69 to 0.85	0.13	19.66	0.26	0.37	0.91	0.87 to 0.94	0.08	12.30	0.16	0.23	7.36

TMH: tear meniscus height; mm: millimeters; NIK BUT first: first break of non-invasive Keratograph tear breakup time; NIK BUT average: average break of non-invasive Keratograph tear breakup time; sc: seconds; NLR: nasal limbal redness; TLR: temporal limbal redness; NBR: nasal bulbar redness; TBR: temporal bulbar redness ; SD: standard deviation; ICC: intraclass correlation coefficient; 95% CI = 95% confidence; Sw: within-subject standard deviation; CoV: coefficient of variation of Sw; CR: coefficient of repeatability; Dif CoV(%): differences between single measure CoV and average measure CoV.

Table 2. Intra-rater repeatability of K5M parameters measured without the contact lens after 1 day and 15 days of use considering two intraclass correlation coefficient type: single measurement and average of measurements. The impact on reliability index of contact lens wear.

	Day 1 - after remove CL														
			ICC single measure						ICC average measures						Dif CoV(%)
	Mean	SD	ICC	95% CI for ICC	Sw	CoV(Sw)%	Precision	CR	ICC	95% CI for ICC	Sw	CoV(Sw)%	Precision	CR	
TMH(mm)	0.32	0.02	0.92	0.87 to 0.95	0.04	12.92	0.08	0.12	0.97	0.95 to 0.98	0.02	7.66	0.05	0.07	5.27
NIK BUT first (sc)	9.73	6.03	0.46	0.29 to 0.62	4.42	45.46	8.67	12.25	0.72	0.55 to 0.83	3.19	32.76	6.24	8.83	12.70
NIK BUT average (sc)	12.39	6.12	0.67	0.54 to 0.79	3.50	28.26	6.86	9.70	0.86	0.78 to 0.92	2.29	18.46	4.48	6.34	9.80
NLR	0.88	0.52	0.93	0.90 to 0.96	0.13	15.23	0.26	0.37	0.98	0.96 to 0.99	0.08	9.01	0.16	0.22	6.23
TLR	0.59	0.30	0.92	0.88 to 0.95	0.08	14.32	0.17	0.23	0.97	0.96 to 0.98	0.05	8.51	0.10	0.14	5.80
NBR	1.20	0.50	0.92	0.88 to 0.95	0.14	11.65	0.27	0.39	0.97	0.96 to 0.98	0.08	6.90	0.16	0.23	4.75
TBR	0.83	0.27	0.80	0.70 to 0.87	0.12	14.67	0.24	0.34	0.92	0.88 to 0.95	0.08	9.10	0.15	0.21	5.56
Day 15 - after remove CL															
TMH(mm)	0.26	0.01	0.92	0.88 to 0.95	0.02	8.36	0.04	0.06	0.97	0.96 to 0.98	0.01	4.97	0.03	0.04	3.39
NIK BUT first (sc)	9.33	6.40	0.48	0.32 to 0.63	4.60	49.33	9.02	12.75	0.74	0.59 to 0.84	3.28	35.16	6.43	9.09	14.17
NIK BUT average (sc)	12.12	5.98	0.66	0.53 to 0.77	3.47	28.64	6.80	9.62	0.86	0.77 to 0.91	2.27	18.77	4.46	6.31	9.88
NLR	0.80	0.50	0.91	0.86 to 0.94	0.15	18.81	0.30	0.42	0.97	0.95 to 0.98	0.09	11.19	0.18	0.25	7.63
TLR	0.53	0.32	0.92	0.88 to 0.95	0.09	16.90	0.18	0.25	0.97	0.96 to 0.98	0.05	10.03	0.10	0.15	6.87
NBR	1.12	0.42	0.90	0.84 to 0.93	0.14	12.28	0.27	0.38	0.96	0.94 to 0.98	0.08	7.34	0.16	0.23	4.94
TBR	0.77	0.32	0.91	0.86 to 0.94	0.10	12.84	0.19	0.27	0.97	0.95 to 0.98	0.06	7.66	0.12	0.16	5.18

TMH: tear meniscus height; mm: millimeters; NIK BUT first: first break of non-invasive Keratograph tear breakup time; NIK BUT average: average break of non-invasive Keratograph tear breakup time; sc: seconds; NLR: nasal limbal redness; TLR: temporal limbal redness; NBR: nasal bulbar redness; TBR: temporal bulbar redness ; SD: standard deviation; ICC: intraclass correlation coefficient; 95% CI = 95% confidence; Sw: within-subject standard deviation; CoV: coefficient of variation of Sw; CR: coefficient of repeatability; Dif CoV(%): differences between single measure CoV and average measure CoV.

Table 3. Intra-rater repeatability of K5M parameters measured during contact lens wear, at 8 hours of use on the 1st and 15th days, considering two intraclass correlation coefficient type: single measurement and average of measurements. The impact on reliability index during contact lens wear.

	Day 1 - 8 h wearing CL														
			ICC single measure						ICC average measures						Dif CoV(%)
	Mean	SD	ICC	95% CI for ICC	Sw	CoV(Sw)%	Precision	CR	ICC	95% CI for ICC	Sw	CoV(Sw)%	Precision	CR	
TMH(mm)	0.25	0.01	0.91	0.87 to 0.94	0.03	11.32	0.06	0.08	0.97	0.95 to 0.98	0.02	6.73	0.03	0.05	4.59
NIK BUT first (sc)	10.31	6.75	0.40	0.25 to 0.56	5.21	50.53	10.21	14.44	0.67	0.50 to 0.79	3.87	37.57	7.59	10.74	12.96
NIK BUT average (sc)	15.31	5.08	0.36	0.20 to 0.52	4.06	26.50	7.95	11.25	0.63	0.43 to 0.77	3.09	20.17	6.05	8.56	6.33
NLR	0.75	0.53	0.92	0.88 to 0.95	0.15	19.81	0.29	0.41	0.97	0.96 to 0.98	0.09	11.76	0.17	0.25	8.05
TLR	0.44	0.30	0.85	0.79 to 0.90	0.11	26.06	0.22	0.32	0.95	0.92 to 0.97	0.07	15.82	0.14	0.19	10.24
NBR	1.15	0.47	0.91	0.86 to 0.94	0.14	12.47	0.28	0.40	0.97	0.95 to 0.98	0.09	7.43	0.17	0.24	5.03
TBR	0.74	0.30	0.80	0.71 to 0.86	0.14	18.60	0.27	0.38	0.92	0.88 to 0.95	0.09	11.54	0.17	0.24	7.07
	Day 15 - 8 h wearing CL														
TMH(mm)	0.24	0.00	0.90	0.85 to 0.94	0.02	9.22	0.04	0.06	0.96	0.95 to 0.98	0.01	5.51	0.03	0.04	3.71
NIK BUT first (sc)	9.67	6.44	0.47	0.31 to 0.62	4.68	48.41	9.18	12.98	0.73	0.58 to 0.83	3.36	34.73	6.59	9.31	13.67
NIK BUT average (sc)	15.48	4.90	0.44	0.28 to 0.60	3.66	23.65	7.18	10.15	0.70	0.54 to 0.82	2.67	17.23	5.23	7.40	6.42
NLR	0.59	0.49	0.76	0.66 to 0.84	0.24	40.25	0.46	0.66	0.91	0.85 to 0.94	0.15	25.32	0.29	0.41	14.93
TLR	0.38	0.22	0.84	0.76 to 0.89	0.09	23.07	0.17	0.25	0.94	0.91 to 0.96	0.05	14.11	0.11	0.15	8.97
NBR	0.92	0.39	0.93	0.89 to 0.96	0.10	11.19	0.20	0.29	0.98	0.96 to 0.98	0.06	6.64	0.12	0.17	4.55
TBR	0.68	0.26	0.83	0.76 to 0.89	0.10	15.38	0.20	0.29	0.94	0.90 to 0.96	0.06	9.42	0.13	0.18	5.96

TMH: tear meniscus height; mm: millimeters; NIK BUT first: first break of non-invasive Keratograph tear breakup time; NIK BUT average: average break of non-invasive Keratograph tear breakup time; sc: seconds; NLR: nasal limbal redness; TLR: temporal limbal redness; NBR: nasal bulbar redness; TBR: temporal bulbar redness ; SD: standard deviation; ICC: intraclass correlation coefficient; 95% CI = 95% confidence; Sw: within-subject standard deviation; CoV: coefficient of variation of Sw; CR: coefficient of repeatability; Dif CoV(%): differences between single measure CoV and average measure CoV.