



Figure 1. Bland-Altman Plot Demonstrating Similarity Between OCT and Histology in the Assessment of Neointimal Thickness

A Bland-Altman visualization of the differences between *in vivo* optical coherence tomography (OCT) and processed histology in the assessment of neointimal thickness revealed remarkable similarity in both measurement data sets with clustering around the zero difference line and few outliers.

measurement of stent area. Furthermore, differences from the origin in the intercept of the lumen and neointimal areas correlation lines are due to slight differences in their measurements found throughout the samples, explanations for which were hypothesized within the paper.

Although Bland-Altman plots for the visualization of the method measurement differences were also constructed, their inclusion in the paper was decided against in the interests of space. As a matter of fact, Bland-Altman plots for all variables analyzed, besides stent areas, did not uncover any differences between methodologies examined in this study. The Bland-Altman plot developed for the evaluation of neointimal thickness is shown. As can be seen, the mean of the differences are very close to 0 for all parameter measures with few outliers. Furthermore, it is important

to clarify that the Barlis article referred to by Ferrante et al. and plots therein are primarily concerned with optical coherence tomography interobserver and intraobserver measurement variability and not the contrast of heterogeneous measurement modalities.

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doi:10.1016/j.jcmg.2010.04.008

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COMMENTARY

Care should be taken when interpreting data analysis from a small-patient series. In general, these reports are hypothesis-generating and lack the precision when compared to a much larger series. Definitive statements regarding small-patient series should be avoided unless full validation of the reported results have been achieved. The Bland-Altman plots describe a wider splay in the differences than noted by the authors; suggesting in larger samples that the correlations noted in this hypothesis-generating series may not be replicated.

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doi:10.1016/j.jcmg.2010.05.005