

Supplementary material 1. Comparison of the RNFL thickness in the superior, inferior, temporal, and nasal quadrants and the average 360° RNFL thickness in healthy controls and LHON patients at different time points of disease progression.

	1st group vs Group control	2nd group vs Group control	3rd group vs Group control	4th group vs Group control	5th group vs Group control	6th group vs Group control	7th group vs Group control	5th group vs 6th group	5th group vs 7th group
RNFL S thickness (µm)	P=1.000	P=1.000	P<0.001*	P<0.001*	P<0.001*	P<0.001*	P<0.001*	P=0.004 <sup>#</sup>	P=1.000
RNFL I thickness (µm)	P=1.000	P=1.000	P<0.001*	P<0.001*	P<0.001*	P<0.001*	P<0.001*	P=0.179	P=1.000
RNFL T thickness (µm)	P=0.005*	P<0.001*	P<0.001*	P<0.001*	P<0.001*	P<0.001*	P<0.001*	P=1.000	P=1.000
RNFL N thickness (µm)	P=0.022*	P=1.000	P=0.928	P<0.001*	P<0.001*	P<0.001*	P<0.001*	P=0.339	P=0.053
RNFL average thickness (µm)	P=1.000	P=0.020*	P<0.001*	P<0.001*	P<0.001*	P<0.001*	P<0.001*	P=0.065	P=1.000

RNFL, retinal nerve fibre layer; Group Control, healthy control; 1st group: disease duration ≤3 months; 2nd group: disease duration 3–6 months; 3rd group: disease duration 6–9 months; 4th group: disease duration 9–12 months; 5th group: disease duration 12–24 months; 6th group: disease duration 24–60 months; 7th group: disease duration >60 months; T, temporal; S, superior; N, nasal; and I, inferior. Values were compared by one-way analysis of covariance (ANCOVA), followed by Bonferroni post hoc test. Gender and age were used as covariates in the analysis. \* P<0.05 when compared with healthy control; <sup>#</sup> P<0.05 when 6th group and 7th group were compared with 5th group, disease duration 12–24 months.

Supplementary material 2. The proportion of RNFL thinning VS 5th group (12-24 months) and VS 6th group (24-60 months) in the 4 quadrants and the 360-degree average.

Group	6th group (24-60 months) vs 5th group (12-24 months)	7th group (>60 months) vs 5th group (12-24 months)	7th group (>60 months) vs 6th group (24-60 months)
The proportion of RNFL thinning (average)	86.96%	80.49%	43.90%
The proportion of RNFL thinning (S)	95.65%	73.17%	39.02%
The proportion of RNFL thinning (N)	76.09%	63.41%	51.22%
The proportion of RNFL thinning (I)	91.30%	75.61%	36.59%
The proportion of RNFL thinning (T)	71.74%	75.61%	68.29%

RNFL, retinal nerve fibre layer; 5th group, disease duration 12-24 months; 6th group, disease duration 24-60 months; 7th group, disease duration >60 months; T, temporal; S, superior; N, nasal; and I, inferior