#### Cone Contrast Test for Color Vision Deficiency Screening Among Trained Military Aircrew and Flying Related Vocations

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I have no financial relationships to disclose.

I will not discuss off-label use and/or investigational use in my presentation.

The views expressed are the sole opinion of the presenter and do not necessarily reflect the views and the opinions of the Republic of Singapore Armed Forces and Republic of Singapore Air Force.











## Introduction

- RSAF reviewed and replaced its color vision testing modality in 2016
- Pre-July 2016: Concept of color safe
  - Primary Ishihara Pseudo Isochromatic Plates
  - Secondary Edridge Lantern Test
- Post-July 2016: Computerised Color Vision
  - Cone Contrast Test
    - Led to an increase of applicant attrition from 0.75% to 3%<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Isaac Chay, Shawn Lim, Benjamin Tan. Cone Contrast Test for Colour Vision Deficiency Screening Among a Cohort of Military Aircrew Applicants; 2017.



#### **Cone Contrast Test**

	Cone Contrast Test			one Con	6)	
Score	L Cone	M Cone	S Cone	L, M	S	
10				27.5	173	1
20				19.1	120	severe
30				13.2	83	
40				9.1	57	Color deficiency
50				6.3	39	
60				4.4	27	mild
70				3.0	19	¥
80				2.1	13	1
90				1.4	10	Normal color vision I
100				1.0	7	<u> </u>





#### Cone Contrast Test

- Score for each cone type (L,M,S)
- The CCT score for each eye is pegged to the cone type with the lowest score
- The lower score of both eyes will be used as the overall score



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# Methodology

- Retrospective cohort study from Nov 2016 to June 2018
- All trained military aircrew and controllers who underwent CCT as part of their annual medical screening
  - All had best corrected VA of 20/20 or

better

• All had no ocular pathology







### Workplace Functional Assessment





# Results

- 143 trained military aircrew and ground based crew, including UAV operators and airtraffic controllers with abnormal CCT score
- Four personnel underwent ophthalmological review, workplace functional assessment with aviation medical officer and qualified instructor:
  - One unfit
  - Three returned to restricted vocational duties



# Results

- All four who failed FALANT were controllers with PMhx of diminished colour vision
- Reviewed by Ophthalmologist: no ocular pathology
- Three out of Four who passed FALANT
  - Workplace Assessment: deemed functionally safe
  - Aeromedical Board: restricted control duties to specific platform and yearly FALANT



### Discussion

- CCT is an effective colour vision test in identifying and quantifying colour vision deficiency
  - High sensitivity/specificity
  - Good repeatability and Fast administration
  - Impossible to memorise
- Majority of trained aircrew and controllers who previously passed colour vision testing continued to pass CCT

### Discussion

- Decision matrix for trained aircrew and controllers with abnormal CCT score
  - Maintaining flight safety
  - Retention of trained personnel
- Waiver management is dependent on the etiology and severity of colour deficiency
  - Workplace functional assessment
  - Aeromedical board for case dependent restrictions



