

## Professional opinion about the HEINE® NC1 Dermatoscope



Dr. Stefanie Kamann

*"I am glad to be able to provide you with a short summary of the non-contact, polarised HEINE NC1 Dermatoscope."*

NC1, HEINE's non-contact dermatoscope with polarised illumination is a combination of two instruments in one: It allows a swift, first screening – patients can be examined without contact yet very thoroughly. This precision is ensured by the NC1's large field of view, unusually high depth of field and a 6x-magnification. Should a specific skin abnormality be inspected more closely, a contact plate can be attached – which transforms the NC1 into a traditional contact-dermatoscope, increasing magnification to 9x.

Additionally to the quick examination option the NC1 has other advantages to offer: With the non-contact option there is no need to use immersion liquids (increased hygiene).

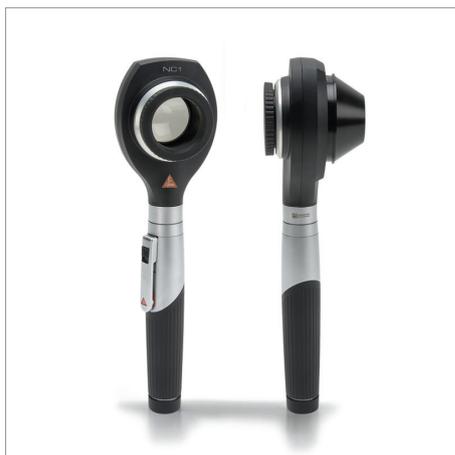
Furthermore, there are some difficult to access body areas such as the space between toes, oral cavities or genital areas. Patients perceive direct contact in these areas as un-

pleasant and the contact areas are regularly too small for application of the contact plate. Moreover, dermatoscopes are increasingly used for diagnosing scabies or differentiating between verrucae vulgares and foreign bodies. Dermatoscopes have also been useful when detecting lice and nits. Here a possible contamination can be avoided when using the non-contact instrument.

Also, particular structures can be better examined under polarised illumination, including so-called crystalline structures typical for basal cell carcinoma or melanoma (Amelanotic Malignant Melanoma). These are amounts of collagen and look like shiny white areas/stripes.

Increasingly more focus is given to assessment of vessel structures when diagnosing basal cell carcinoma and melanoma, respectively Amelanotic Malignant Melanoma. By adding a contact plate vessels might look different due to applied pressure – hence distorting diagnosis.

Dr. Stefanie Kamann runs a Dermatology Practice in the district of Starnberg, Germany.



HEINE NC1 Non-contact Dermatoscope.

