Claims

1. An adapter for interfacing with a camera to allow the camera to take a fundus image of an eye of a subject, the adapter comprising:

a mounting unit for attachment to the camera,

an eye piece defining an aperture to be directed at a fundus of the eye;

a lens system defining an optical path between the mounting unit and the aperture, the lens system including a plurality of lenses arranged to receive light reflected from the eye of the subject; and

a lighting system comprising at least one infrared light source and at least one visible light source, whereby the infrared light source enables the camera to auto-focus without affecting the eye, and the visible light source provides illumination during the capturing of a fundus image;

the at least one visible light source and at least one infrared light source being arranged off the optical path and proximate the eye piece, and each being located to emit light which propagates towards the aperture in a direction which converges towards the optical path, and passes through the aperture without having passed through the lens system.

2. An adapter according to claim 1 in which there are a plurality of visible light sources and infrared light sources arranged in an array surrounding the optical path.

3. An adapter according to claim 2 in which the array is circular and encircles the optical path.

4. An adapter according to any preceding claim in which there are at least three visible light sources and at least three infrared light sources.

5. An adapter according to any preceding claim in which the lens system includes an aspheric and achromatic lens.

6. An adapter according to claim 5 ~~or 6~~ when dependent upon claim 3, in which the array of visible light sources and infra-red light sources encircles the achromatic lens.

7. An adapter according to any preceding claim in which there are exactly two lenses in the lens system.

8. An adapter according to any preceding claim in which at least 50% of the energy of the infrared light emitted by the at least one infrared light source has a wavelength below 950nm.

9. An adapter according to claim 8 in which at least 50% of energy of the infrared light emitted by the at least one infrared light source has a wavelength below 910nm.

10. An adapter according to any preceding claim further including a mechanism for generating images at successive respective angular positions relative to the eye of the subject.

11. A method of generating an fundus image of the eye, the method comprising capturing a plurality of fundus images using an adapter according to any preceding claim, the eye being in a different angular position relative to the optical path in each said image, and combining the images to form a composite fundus images.

12. A method according to claim 11 further comprising generating an image successively at a plurality of successive angular positions relative to the eye, and capturing said plurality of fundus images when the subject’s eye is directed towards a respective one of the plurality of angular positions.