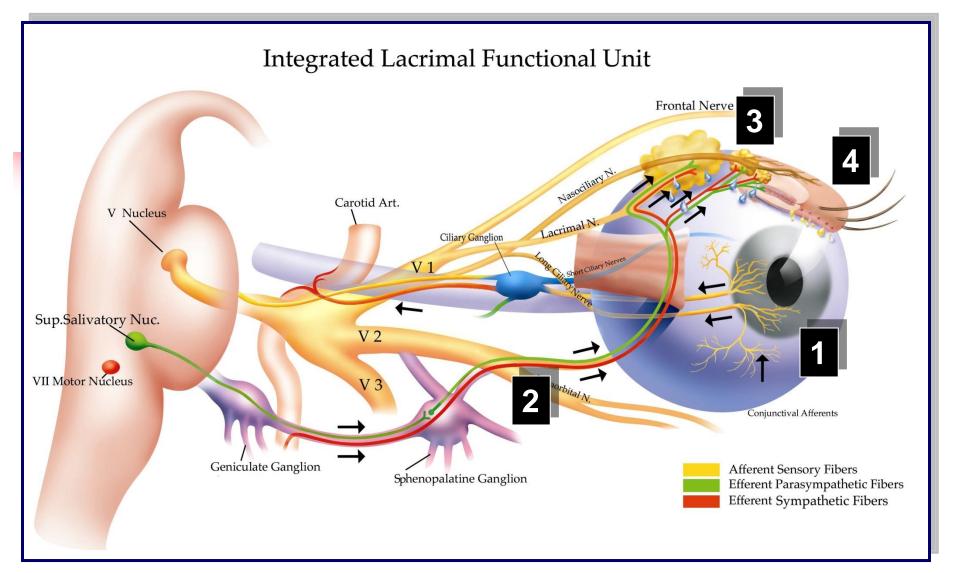
## Tearing Due to Dry Eyes

### Kimberly Cockerham, MD, FACS Central Valley Eye Medical Group





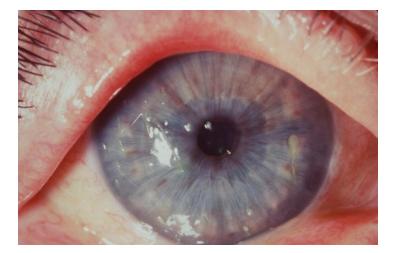
#### Dry Eye is a Disease of the Lacrimal Functional Unit

# Dry Eye Is Prevalent

- 2.5 million people in the United States<sup>1</sup>
- A top reason for visits to EyeMDs and Ods
- Patients often dissatisfied with treatments
  - Frequent drops inconvenient
  - Limited symptomatic relief
  - Frustrated
  - Want new options

# **Dry Eye Patient Factors**

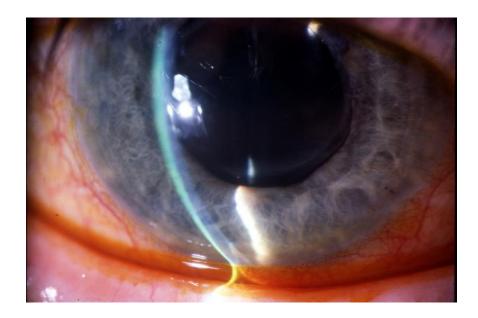
- Older age
- Female gender
- Post-menopausal
- Tobacco smoking
- Contact lens wear



Prolonged staring (e.g. computer work)

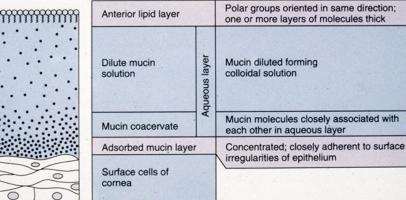
# **Environmental Factors**

- Air Pollution
- Artificial, forced air
- Allergens
- Low humidity





- Antihistamines
- Antidepressants
- Antispasmodics
- Diructics
- Oral contraceptives
- Hormonal therapy



# **Disease Related Factors**

- Systemic:
  - Autoimmune disease (TED)
  - Neurologic disease that reduces blink
  - Vitamin A deficiency
- Local:
  - Lacrimal gland infiltration
  - Eyelid malposition, laxity, lagophthalmos
  - Ocular surface disease

## Pathophysiology of Chronic Dry Eye Disease

#### Lacrimal Glands:

- Chronic irritation
- T-cell activation
- Cytokine secretion into tears

neuronal control of Interrupted Secretor Nerve Impulses

1 No

Lacrimal Damage

Tears Damage Ocular Surface

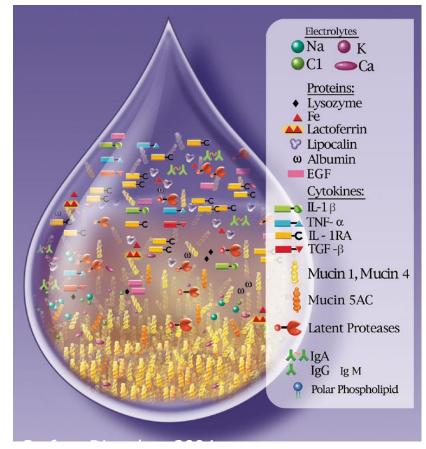
> Cytokines Disrupt Neural Arc

Disruption of normal

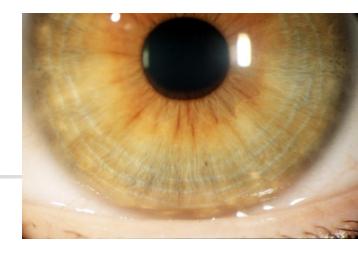
# **Healthy Tears**

### Complex Mixture

- Antimicrobial proteins
- Growth factors
- Cytokines
  - suppress inflammation
- Mucin secreted by <u>goblet cells</u>
  - Viscosity
- Electrolytes
  - Osmolarity



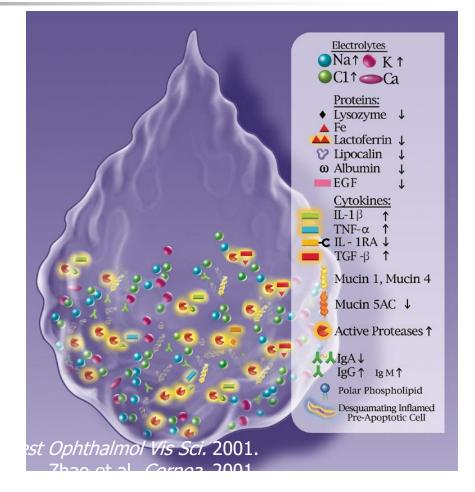
Functions of a Healthy Tear Film



- Optical clarity, refractive power
- Ocular surface comfort, lubrication
- Protection from environmental and infectious insults
  - Antibacterial proteins, antibodies, complement
  - Reflex tears flush away particles
- Trophic environment for corneal epithelium
  - Necessary electrolytes maintain pH
  - Protein factors for growth and wound healing
  - Antioxidants

# Tears in Chronic Dry Eye

- Decreased proteins and growth factors
- Altered cytokine
   balance promotes
   inflammation
- Proteases activated
- Increased electrolytes
- Altered viscosity

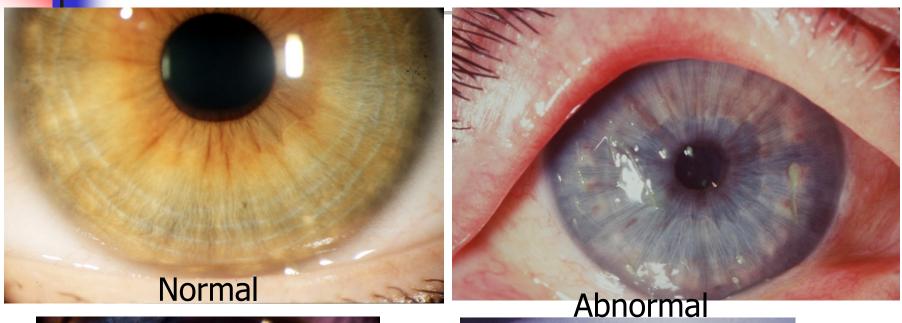


Effects of Altered Tear Composition in Chronic Dry Eye

- Ocular surface tissue environment altered
  - Lubrication compromised due to poor viscosity
  - Increased osmolarity
  - Imbalanced growth factors and cytokines fail to promote normal epithelial growth
- Ocular surface damage
  - Loss of corneal epithelial integrity
  - Squamous metaplasia of conjunctival epithelium



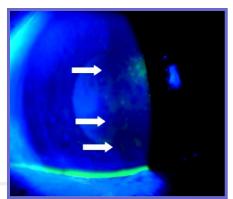
## The Look of Dry







# Tear Breakup Time (TBUT)



#### Tear film instability is a hallmark of dry eye

Correlates with aqueous and evaporative tear deficiency (Pflugfelder et al, 1998)

#### TBUT measures tear film quality

- Fluorescein introduced from strip, yellow filter increases sensitivity
- TBUT = time from completed blink to 1st dry spot (3 repetitions)

#### TBUT < 10 seconds abnormal (Lemp, 1995)</p>

• Anesthesia decreases TBUT (de Paiva et al, 2004)

Abnormal corneal surface - > break-up spots

# Lissamine Green Staining in Dry Eye

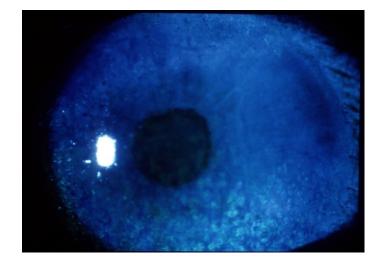


 Lissamine green detects dead or degenerated conjunctival cells

# Vital Stains

#### Fluorescein Rose Bengal Lissamine Green







### Schirmer's Strips







# "Dry Eyes" are Very Common

- 25% of office visits in a general practice
- Affects over 20 million Americans
- Prevalence: 14% of adults 48 91 years old
- Most common in woman over 50 years old

# **Dry Eye Patient Factors**

- Older age
- Female gender
- Post-menopausal
- Tobacco smoking
- Contact lens wear
- Prolonged staring (e.g. computer work)

# **Environmental Factors**

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# **Disease Related Factors**

- Systemic:
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- Local:
  - Lacrimal gland infiltration
  - Eyelid malposition or laxity
  - Ocular surface disease

Dry Eye Management Mild to Moderate Symptoms

- Minimal signs
- Consider environment/intake
- Add tear replacement
  - Osmolarity
  - Viscosity
  - Combination

# Dry Eye Management Moderate to Severe Symptoms

- Abnormal tear film, corneal and conjunctival staining visual signs
- Essential fatty acids (EFA)
  - Flaxseed oil, Hydroeye®
- Topical anti-inflammatory agents
  - Cyclosporine
- Oral cholinergics
  - Pilocarpine (Salagen®)
  - Cevimeline

## Consensus Treatment Algorithm Guidelines

DRY EYE SEVERITY II	NDEX		Contraction of the local distance of the loc
LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3	LEVEL 4
<ul> <li>Mild to moderate symptoms and no signs</li> <li>Mild to moderate conjunctival signs</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Moderate to severe symptoms</li> <li>Tear film signs</li> <li>Mild corneal punctate staining</li> <li>Conjunctival staining</li> <li>Visual signs</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Severe symptoms</li> <li>Marked corneal punctate staining</li> <li>Central corneal staining</li> <li>Filamentary keratitis</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Severe symptoms</li> <li>Severe corneal staining, erosions</li> <li>Conjunctival scarring</li> </ul>
		Corneal staining	
		Conjunctival staining	

Dry Eye Management Mild to Moderate Symptoms

- Minimal or no signs
- Add Essential fatty acids (EFA)
  - Flaxseed oil, Hydroeye®
- Add tear replacement
  - Osmolarity
  - Viscosity
  - Combination
- Restasis or Xiidra



# Dry Eye Management *Moderate to Severe Symptoms*

- Signs present: Abnormal tear film, corneal and conjunctival staining
- Essential fatty acids (EFA)
  - Flaxseed oil, Hydroeye®
- Topical anti-inflammatory agents

Cyclosporine

- If dry mouth also present: consider oral cholinergics
  - Pilocarpine (Salagen®)
  - Cevimeline

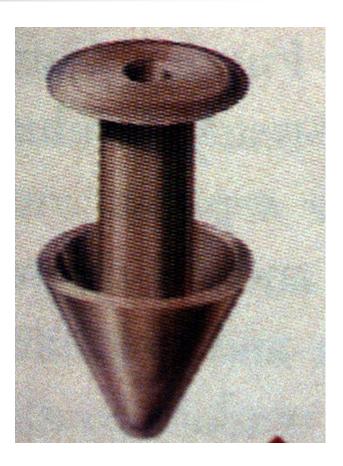


Restasis and Xiidra Dosing and Administration

- Not "as needed" like traditional eye drops
- One drop-each eye in morning & evening
- Vials should be discarded after each use
- Artificial tears may be used for concomitant relief (*no preservatives much better*)

# Dry Eye Surgical Management

Punctal occlusionPlugsCautery



# Systematic Approach to Tearing



- Other
  - Ocular Surface
  - Eyelid
  - Orbit

