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The forgotten aspect of the lacrimal function unit, corneal nerves

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Abstract

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m he}$ Lacrimal Functional Unit (LFU) is defined by the 2007

International Dry Eye WorkShop as 'an integrated system comprising the lacrimal glands, ocular surface (cornea, conjunctiva and meibomian glands) and lids, and the sensory and motor nerves that connect them'. Unitl recently, practitioners were able to treat the ocular surface, meibomian and lacrimal glands, but unable to do much for the neurosensory component of the LFU. We often hear there is a disconnect between signs and symptoms in dry eye disease. Neuropathic eye pain is a result of nerves firing when they shouldn't. This is called pain without stain, and may be central or peripheral. Neurotrophic keratitis results when the corneal nerves become atrophic. This is called stain without pain. This lecture will review epidemology, anatomy, etilogies, diagnostics, and treaments for both conditons.



Biography:

Dr. Schachter received his Doctor of Optometry degree from Southern California College of Optometry and is in private practice in Pismo Beach, CA, with an emphasis on ocular surface disease. Dr. Schachter is an Adjunct Clinical Professor at Marshall B. Ketchum University and has presented scientific posters and published articles in peer-reviewed scientific journals such as Optometry and Vision Science Journal, ARVO, AAO, and AOA. Dr. Schachter is a Global Ambassador for the Tear Film and Ocular Surface Society and has presented education internationally. He is the founder of Ocular Surface Academy, combining dry eye education with wine tourism, and the Facebook groups OSDocs, with over 6,000 eye care professionals. Dr. Schachter has been a Vision Source Administrator since 2003.

Speaker Publications:

- 1. "A Dry Eye Survey of Practicing Optometrists"
- 2 "Impact of digital device use on dry eye symptoms"
- 3. "Gender Differences of Meibomian Gland Atrophy in a Younger Population"
- 4. "Asymptomatic Meibomian Gland Dysfunction"
- 5. "Symptoms Associated with the Presence of Demodex folliculorum"

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