

Dry Eye disease

Dry Eye Disease (DED) is a lack of quality lubrication that can lead to an inflammatory cycle of the ocular surface.^{1,2}



Multifactorial disease^{2,3}

- Involves a range of ocular structures:
 - Ocular surface (cornea, conjunctiva, accessory lacrimal glands)
 - Meibomian glands
 - Innervation between the ocular surface and meibomian glands

Epidemiology

- Prevalence data varies but as many as 5-50% of people could be affected globally⁴
- Risk factors include age, gender, nutrition, genetic background, disease history and high use of digital screens^{3,4}
- Annual cost to US health system is estimated to be US \$3.84 billion⁴

Symptoms and disease burden³

- Tear film instability

- Ocular discomfort including redness, burning, and stinging
- Visual disturbance
- Potential damage to the ocular surface
- Poorer quality of life (impaired ability to perform day-to-day tasks)

Unmet medical needs

- Over-the-counter eye drops, the standard of care for DED, often have limited success in moderate-to-severe DED^{3,5}
- Many DED products have short duration of effect, delayed onset of action and poor patient tolerability⁶
- Many treatments do not effectively address the signs, symptoms, and underlying pathogenic mechanisms of DED⁷

References

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