

# Dry Eye disease

Dry Eye Disease (DED) is a lack of quality lubrication that can lead to an inflammatory cycle of the ocular surface.<sup>1,2</sup>



## Multifactorial disease<sup>2,3</sup>

- 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 globally<sup>4</sup>
- Risk factors include age, gender, nutrition, genetic background, disease history and high use of digital screens<sup>3,4</sup>
- Annual cost to US health system is estimated to be US \$3.84 billion<sup>4</sup>

## Symptoms and disease burden<sup>3</sup>

- 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<sup>3,5</sup>
- Many DED products have short duration of effect, delayed onset of action and poor patient tolerability<sup>6</sup>
- Many treatments do not effectively address the signs, symptoms, and underlying pathogenic mechanisms of DED<sup>7</sup>

#### **References**

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