

The Connection between Keratitis and Dry Eye Syndrome

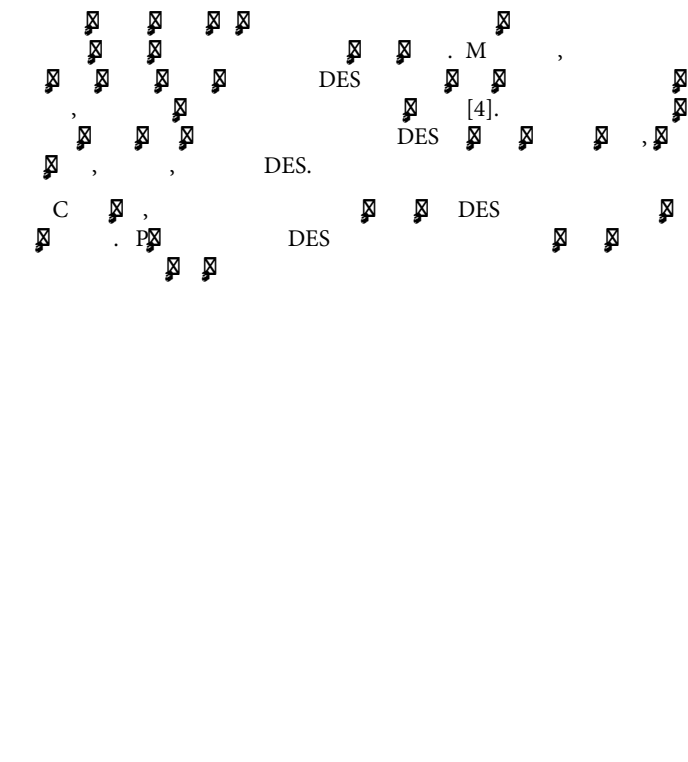
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Abstract: Keratitis and Dry Eye Syndrome (DES) are common ocular conditions that often co-occur. This review explores the pathophysiological connections between these two conditions, focusing on the role of the immune system and the ocular surface. The article discusses how inflammation in the cornea can lead to tear film instability and vice versa. Key findings include the involvement of cytokines, particularly those from the Th1 and Th17 families, in both conditions. The article also discusses the role of the ocular surface epithelium and the importance of maintaining a healthy tear film for ocular health.

Keywords: Keratitis; Dry Eye Syndrome; Ocular Surface; Inflammation; Immunity; Tear Film; Cornea; Eye Health.

Introduction

Keratitis (K) is an inflammation of the cornea, while Dry Eye Syndrome (DES) is a multifactorial condition characterized by tear film instability and ocular discomfort. Both conditions can significantly impact visual acuity and quality of life. The pathogenesis of these conditions is complex and involves multiple factors, including environmental factors, genetics, and immune system dysregulation. Recent research has highlighted the strong connection between the two conditions, suggesting that they may share common underlying mechanisms. This paper aims to explore these connections and provide an update on the current understanding of the relationship between Keratitis and Dry Eye Syndrome.



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