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Service (sector)

Cornea and External Disease

Nº CEP

### **Psychological complications of Stevens-Johnson syndrome in children.**

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Purpose: To study psychological characteristics in children with Stevens-Johnson syndrome (SJS) and ocular involvement.

Methods: This study was carried out in the External Disease and Cornea Service at the Dept. Ophthalmology of the UNIFESP. We evaluated 3 children (7, 9, 10 years) with history of SJS who developed ocular surface problems and decreased visual acuity. We applied the psychological tests HTP and Duss legends. In order to compare with a reference standard, we applied the same tests in healthy children of the same age. After the application of the tests, we matched the data and evaluated the psychological aspects of SJS in these children.

Results: We noticed a tendency for familiar over-protection, fear of rejection, need for self-affirmation with a swap relation (compensation), doubts on the sexuality, familiar disagreement, aggressiveness, emotional regression, fear of the total blindness and necessity for material rewards (gifts).

Conclusion: We could verify through the psychological tests many different emotional problems in children with SJS and ocular involvement. A careful psychological evaluation and follow up is needed in these group of patients.