

R1 R2 R3 PG0 PG1 Estagiário Tecnólogo
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Service (sector) Refraction and Contact lenses N° CEP

Contact lenses and dry eye symptoms

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Objective: To evaluate the use and need of eye lubricants by contact lens users. Material and method: We contacted by phone all patients who obtained their soft contact lenses from 1999 to 2001 in the "Hospital Universitário Evangélico de Curitiba". They were invited to answer a questionnaire about symptoms of dry eye, the need of eye lubricants and what and how they are used. Results: 59 patients answered the questionnaire. 23 (39%) used eye drops as lubricants, 4 (6.8%) used saline solution, 2 (3.4%) used multipurpose solution and 30 (50.8%) patients did not use anything. The ones who used lubricants used them only as needed and in some cases not every day. 4 (13.8%) of the ones who used lubricants had symptoms of dry eye, and 5 (16.6%) of those who did not use it had symptoms. Conclusion: 50 patients did not have complaints of dry eye independent of their use of ocular lubricants; however, the use of ocular lubricants have been emphasized to prevent tear film alteration and symptoms of dry eye.