

R1 R2 R3 PG0 PG1 Estagiário Tecnólogo
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Service (sector) Cornea and External Disease N° CEP

Is herpes simplex virus (HSV) keratitis worse in the atopic patient? Comparative study of ocular HSV in patients with and without atopy

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Purpose: Compare the severity of ocular HSV in patients with and without atopy. Design: Retrospective cohort comparative study. Methods: Setting: Cornea Service, Wills Eye Hospital. Study population: Patients who presented with previously diagnosed ocular HSV between March 2003 and March 2004. From 244 patients invited, 98 (110 eyes) were included according to exclusion criteria: No active episode during follow-up, immunosuppression, follow-up less than one year, previous history of penetrating keratoplasty (PK). Observation procedure: Questionnaire regarding history of atopic disease, considering: presence of allergic rhinitis, asthma or atopic dermatitis, and chart review of ocular history. Main outcome measures: Incidence and type of HSV recurrences, bilaterality, visual loss, need for PK and secondary bacterial infection in both groups. HSV episodes were classified into infectious, inflammatory and mixed for analysis. Results: Atopic / non-atopic (p value): Mean follow-up 11.6 (\pm 10.6) / 8.8 years (\pm 8.4) ($p=0.14$); incidence of HSV episodes per year of follow-up: total episodes 0.32 (\pm 0.36) / 0.28 (\pm 0.33) ($p=0.14$), infectious 0.16 (\pm 0.22) / 0.10 (\pm 0.14) ($p<0.01$), inflammatory 0.11 (\pm 0.19) / 0.11 (\pm 0.19) ($p<0.01$) and mixed 0.09 (\pm 0.20) / 0.07 (\pm 0.16) ($p=0.06$); bilaterality 9 / 3 patients($p=0.22$); mean loss of vision (lines of Snellen) 4 / 4 ($p=0.51$); need for PK 16 / 14 eyes ($p=0.45$); secondary bacterial infection 2 / 4 eyes ($p=0.26$). Conclusion: Atopic patients did not seem to have worse HSV disease compared to non-atopics. Atopics had more infectious and less inflammatory episodes which usually cause more severe scarring and visual loss.