



Acanthamoeba Keratitis in Contact Lens Wearer

Dr. Marta Villalba^{1*}, Antonio Cano Ortiz¹, Álvaro Sánchez Ventosa¹, David Cerdán Palacios²

¹Department of Ophthalmology, Anterior Segment and Cornea Unity, Hospital Arruzafa, 14012 Cordoba, Spain

²Department of Ophthalmology, R&D Unity, Hospital Arruzafa, 14012 Cordoba, Spain



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Author : Dr. Marta Villalba, M.D.

Clinical Image

A 14-years-old man, contact lens carrier, initially presented to the emergency room with a corneal ulcer and recurrent inflammation in his left eye. He was initially treated with antibiotics, later adding topical and systemic antivirals when it was mistakenly considered, like herpetic keratitis. After fifteen days, he had intense photophobia and loss of vision. On ophthalmological examination superior perineuritis, annular infiltrate with epithelial defect, superficial punctate keratitis and complete stromal edema were observed and captured in this image. A diagnosis [1] of Acanthamoeba keratitis was made (Figure 1).

Acanthamoeba keratitis is an inflammatory pathology of the cornea, caused by Acanthamoeba [2], a protozoan found in floor, on ground, and in water, at sea and in homes and swimming pools. The characteristic symptoms of this infection are: red eye, decreased vision, intolerance to light, tearing, and above all, eye pain. This pathology is predominantly seen in daily wear of contact lenses [3].



Figure 1: Cornea with intact epithelium and ring infiltrate, characteristic of Acanthamoeba keratitis, in a contact lens wearer.

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*Correspondence:

Dr. Marta Villalba, MD., Department of Ophthalmology, Anterior Segment and Cornea Unity, Hospital Arruzafa, 14012 Cordoba, Tel: 0034 957340118, Spain, E-mail: marta.villalba7@gmail.com

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