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Bacterial Keratitis Clinical Presentation

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PRESENTATION

History

Patients with bacterial keratitis usually complain of rapid onset of pain, photophobia, and decreased vision. It is important to document a complete systemic and ocular history in these patients to identify any potential risk factors that would have made them susceptible to develop this infection, including the following:

- Contact lens wear (Note the type of lens, wearing time, and type of disinfection system.)
- Trauma (including previous corneal surgery)
- Use of contaminated ocular medications
- Decreased immunologic defenses
- Use of immunosuppressive agents such as steroid drops that may predispose to infection
- Aqueous tear deficiencies
- Recent corneal disease (herpetic keratitis, neurotrophic keratopathy)
- Structural alteration or malposition of the eyelids