

CONJUNCTIVA and CONJUNCTIVAL DISEASES

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The conjunctiva is a mucous membrane covering the inner surface of the eyelids, the inner and outer surfaces of the third eyelid surface, and upper surface of the sclera to the limbus.

- Palpebral conjunctiva
- Dorsal fornix
- Bulbar conjunctiva

The conjunctiva consists of many goblet cells

The conjunctiva is the most exposed mucous membrane in the body.

Conjunctival Diseases

Red Eye

Conjunctival inflammation is characterized by

- Conjunctival Hyperemia
- Ocular Discharge
- Chemosis (conjunctival edema)
- Conjunctival and Subconjunctival Hemorrhage
- Follicle formation
- Pruritus
- Abnormal swellings
- Conjunctival emphysema

CONJUNCTIVITIS

Classification is according to

etiology (bacterial, viral, fungal, parasitic, immune-mediated, toxic or chemical, tear film abnormalities)

duration (acute, subacute, chronic, recurrent)

appearance (mucoid, purulent, mucopurulent, hemorrhagic, follicular, membranous, pseudomembranous, ligneous)

TREATMENT

- Determine the etiology
- Antibiotics
- Corticosteroids
- Cleansing agents
- Vasoactive agents

Bacterial Conjunctivitis

Find the primary cause

Topical broad-spectrum antibiotics

Wash the ocular surface with sterile saline

Systemic antibiotic therapy if conjunctivitis is associated with generalized dermatitis or otitis.

Elizabethan collar

Chlamydial Conjunctivitis

Chlamydiaceae spp.

Cats, sheeps

Ocular signs are commonly seen with rhinitis, fever and submandibular lymphadenopathy

Systemic antibiotics (esp. Doxycycline)

Topical ophthalmic ointments

Mycoplasmal Conjunctivitis

Mycoplasma spp.

Tetracyclines (topical and systemic)

Viral Conjunctivitis

Feline Viral Conjunctivitis

FHV-1

Feline populations are the reservoir of infection

Canine Viral Conjunctivitis

Canine adenovirus I and adenovirus II

Canine herpesvirus

Equine Viral Conjunctivitis

Commonly associated with upper respiratory tract

Equine herpesvirus (EHV)

Bovine Viral Conjunctivitis

Infectious bovine rhinotracheitis (IBR) and malignant catarrhal fever (MCF)

Treatment of Viral Conjunctivitis

- No antiviral agents have been developed for the treatment of viral conjunctivitis in veterinary ophthalmology.
- Antiviral agents should be used carefully when signs are severe and chronic.
- Acyclovir
- Supportive therapy (cleaning of eyelid, lubricant ointment)
- **Corticosteroids are contraindicated**
- Antibacterial therapy
- Lysine
- Interferon

Mycotic Conjunctivitis

Aspergillus spp and yeasts

Parasitic Conjunctivitis

Thelazia spp (dog, cat, cattle, horse, pig, sheep, deer, human)

Onchocerca cervicalis (horse)

Oestrus ovis (sheep)

Habronema spp. (horse)

Oxyspirura mansoni (poultry, esp. turkey)

Immune-Mediated Conjunctivitis

Eosinophilic keratoconjunctivitis

Allergic conjunctivitis

Pannus

Nodular granulomatous episclerokeratoconjunctivitis

Allergic Conjunctivitis

Periocular erythema and conjunctival hyperemia

Serous to mucoid discharge

Chemosis

Concurrent inflammation of the skin, nasal cavity, ears or pharynx

Treatment of Immune-Mediated Conjunctivitis

- Topical corticosteroids
- Topical cyclosporine
- Antihistamines
- Topical antibiotics
- Systemic corticosteroids therapy (in severe cases, if necessary)