

Unusual Location of Eye Lashes

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A 28 year-old-female, with no medical history, presented with constant watering, white discharge and irritation in her left eye for the past month, resolving after self-medication (Aureomycin ointment), and recurring once the drops stopped. The uncorrected distance visual acuity was 10/10 in both eyes, the slit lamp examination found localized congestion in the left eye's nasal bulbar conjunctiva, with fluorescein staining in the same area. Three eyelashes seemed to be protruding from the upper lacrimal punctum, surrounded by clear discharge (Figure 1). Otherwise, there was no associated inflammation of the lacrimal drainage system and the anterior segment was normal in both eyes.



Figure 1: Presence of 3 eyelashes inside the lacrimal punctum, surrounded by white discharge.

After local anaesthesia, an abundant wash out was performed, only one eyelash remained in place. The removal was made using a forceps and a thick eye lash was removed with the hair bulb being inside the punctum (Figure 2). Following lacrimal ducts probing and irrigation were normal.

The removal did not require pulling as it is the case with normal eyelashes. Thus, it is more likely that the eyelashes did not originate from the lacrimal punctum, but rather fell from their follicles and ended up within the lacrimal punctum following the lacrimal drainage flow.





Figure 2 and 3: The remaining eyelash after the eyewash.



Figure 4: Removal of the remaining eyelash with a forceps.

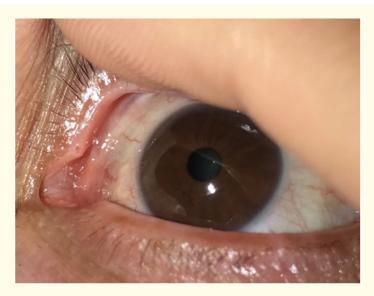


Figure 5: Lacrimal punctum appearance after eyelashes removal.

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