Dry Eye and Upper Lid Margin Staining

Upper lid margin staining might be a useful indicator for detecting dry eye disease before symptoms manifest.

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE

- Contemporary Multifocal Contact Lens Primer
- Toric and Multifocal Scleral Lens Options
- The Real World of Toric Contact Lens Wear
Contamac Announces Grant, Reaches Anniversary

A new grant in support of the non-profit Keratoconus Foundation has been established in conjunction with the U.S. launch of Contamac’s contact lenses for keratoconus. These lenses are now available in the United States by Bausch + Lomb (B+L) through a global licensing agreement with UltraVision CLPL.

Contamac’s contact lenses are manufactured exclusively in Contamac’s Definitive silicone hydrogel material. For every prescription Kerasonic lens prescribed in North America, Contamac will donate a portion of the Definitive material sales as an unrestricted grant to the Keratoconus Foundation, according to Marty Dalsing, president, Contamac, US. Only B+L authorized contact lens laboratories will be eligible to fulfill this special offer.

Contamac also announced that it is celebrating its 25th Anniversary in 2012 with a series of special events scheduled throughout the year. The company recently completed expansion and improvements totalling more than £2 million in its facility located in north Essex in the United Kingdom, including more than £400,000 in capital equipment investment.

Contamac was founded in 1987 with a range of contact lens materials, with its first foldable acrylic IOL material added in 1997. Contamac US was established as an affiliate company in 2002, followed by the launch of the full range of Optimum GP materials in 2004. Contamac launched the first lathable silicone hydrogel material Definitive in 2008.

The company launched its Centre of Excellence and the formation of the Specialty Lens Institute in 2011 as well, targeting practitioner education, contact lens training, and optometric school contact lens programs.

PROSE Now Available at Wilmer Eye Institute

Boston Foundation for Sight’s prosthetic replacement of the ocular surface system (PROSE) treatment is now being offered at the Johns Hopkins Wilmer Eye Institute. Boston Foundation for Sight says that its PROSE restores vision, supports healing, reduces symptoms, and improves quality of life using FDA-approved (1994) custom designed and fabricated prosthetic devices to replace or support impaired ocular surface functions that protect and enable vision. The Ocular Surface Diseases and Dry Eye Clinic at Wilmer Eye Institute will offer PROSE treatment to patients who have conditions including Stevens-Johnson Syndrome, keratoconus, Sjögren’s syndrome, and chronic ocular graft-versus-host disease (GVHD).

“Our relationship with Wilmer Eye Institute at Johns Hopkins Medicine is another step towards our goal to make the BostonSight PROSE treatment available in major population centers across the United States” said Boston Foundation for Sight President and CEO, Eugene A. Bonte.

Source news, communications among members, happenings, etc. They will be updated regularly, and will feature the latest comprehensive Partner product offerings and promotions throughout the year. Visit www.vision-source.com for more information.

Ophthalmic industry veteran Kim Brazzell, PhD, is the new chief medical officer of Mimetogen Pharmaceuticals. Dr. Brazzell will lead the development of Mimetogen’s MIM-D3 pivotal program for treating dry eye. The company previously announced in June 2011 that MIM-D3, a small molecule TrkA agonist, had successfully completed a 150-patient, multi-center Phase 2 trial for the treatment of dry eye. Dr. Brazzell previously held several executive positions at Inspire Pharmaceuticals.

The FDA is alerting pharmacists and healthcare providers of potential injury due to confusion between the FDA-approved eye medicine Durazol (difluprednate ophthalmic emulsion) 0.05% and the unapproved prescription topical wart remover Durasal (salicylic acid) 26%. There has been one report of serious eye injury and several near incidents because of the name similarity.