DISEASES OF THE CONJUNCTIVAL DISEASE

Sawa private university

College of health and medical technology

fourth class

Fifth eye disease lecture

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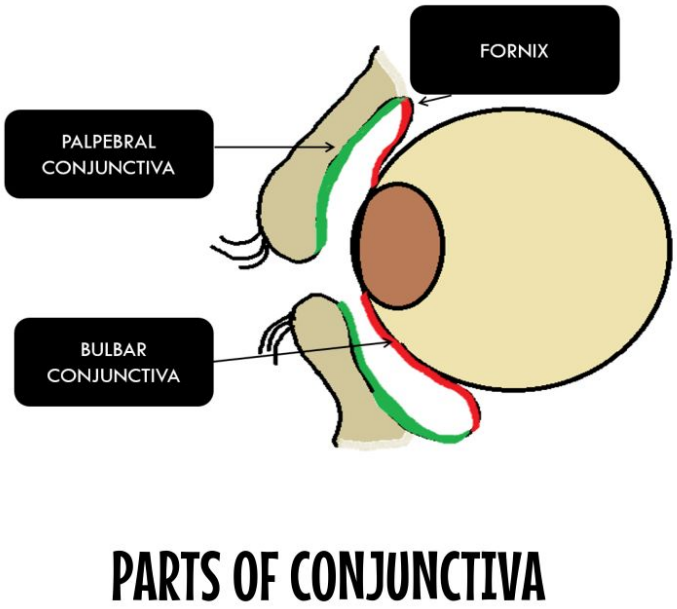
Introduction

- Conjunctivitis = inflammation or infection of the conjunctiva.
- Common cause of red-eye.
- Visual acuity usually preserved unless cornea involved.

Anatomy of Conjunctiva

- • Covers inner eyelid and anterior sclera.
- • Non-keratinized epithelium + vascular stroma.
- • Contains immune cells and goblet cells.



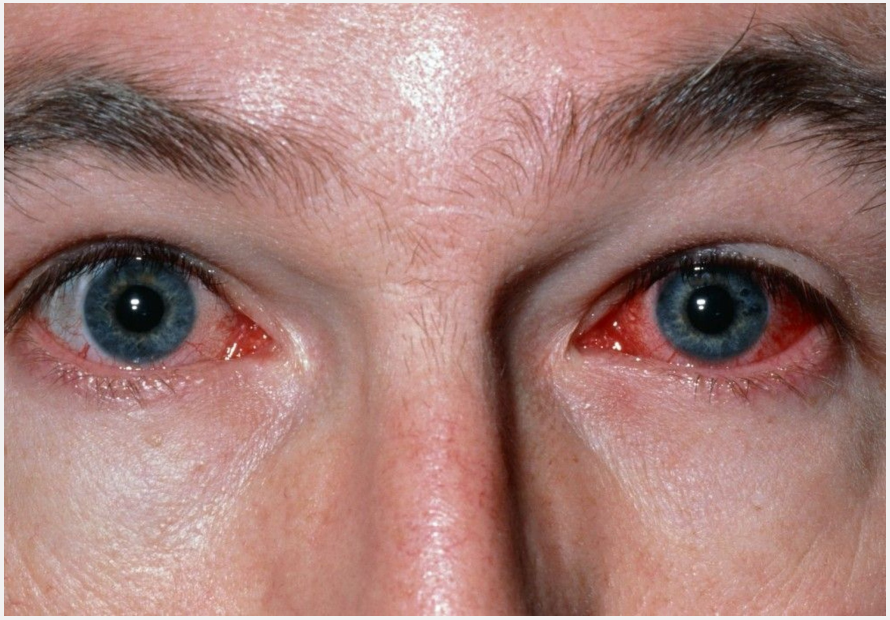
Pathophysiology

- Vessel dilation → redness and swelling.
- Exudate forms due to inflammation.
- Papillae or follicles depending on cause.

Classification

- Infectious: Viral, Bacterial, Chlamydial, Gonococcal.
- Non-Infectious: Allergic, Toxic, Irritant.

Viral Conjunctivitis

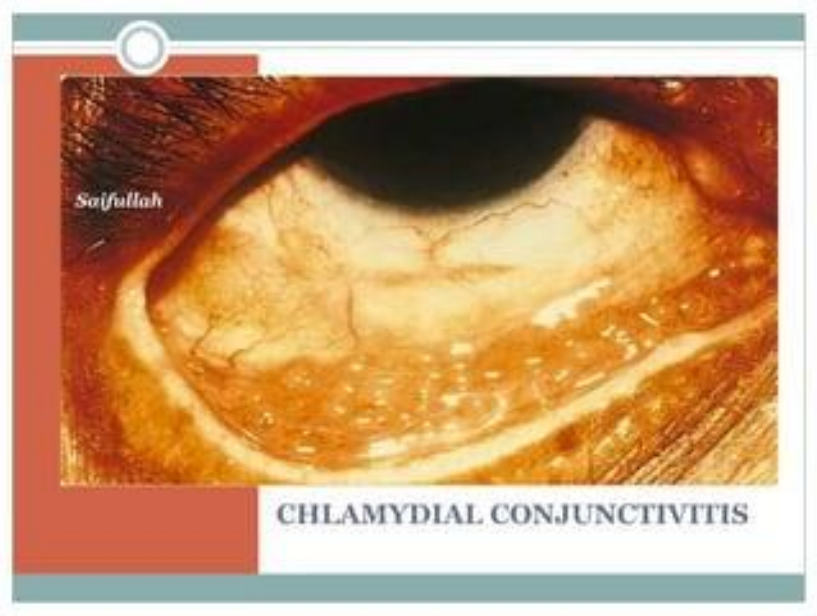


- • Most common in adults.
- • Adenovirus is main pathogen.
- • Watery discharge, preauricular lymphadenopathy.
- • Self-limiting, contagious.

Bacterial Conjunctivitis

- • Common in children.
- • Staph, Strep, H. influenzae.
- • Purulent discharge, eyelids stuck in morning.
- • Treated with topical antibiotics.

Chlamydial & Gonococcal Types



- • Chlamydial: Chronic, follicles, scarring possible.
- • Gonococcal: Hyperacute, copious pus, corneal risk.
- • Require systemic antibiotics and referral.

Clinical Features

- Redness, tearing, foreign body sensation.
- Watery vs purulent discharge differentiate causes.
- Vision loss only if cornea involved.

Optometrist Examination

- Check visual acuity.
- Slit-lamp: papillae/follicles, discharge, membranes.
- Examine cornea and lymph nodes.

Management

- Hygiene & isolation (viral).
- Artificial tears, compresses.
- Antibiotics for bacterial.
- Stop contact lens use.

When to Refer

- Severe pain or vision loss.
- Corneal ulceration.
- Contact lens-related infection.
- No improvement after 48 hours.

Complications & Prognosis

- Usually resolves without sequelae.

- Complications: keratitis, scarring (chlamydia).

- Prevention: hygiene and early management.

Optometrist Role

- Differentiate red-eye causes.
- Educate patients on hygiene.
- Document findings.
- Know referral pathways.

Summary

- Conjunctivitis = common but must be classified.
- Viral > bacterial > allergic.
- Treat supportively or with antibiotics.
- Watch for red flags.