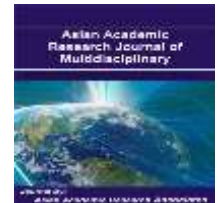




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ADENOVIRUS TYPES THAT CAUSE CONJUNCTIVITIS

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Abstract

A variety of viruses can be responsible for viral conjunctivitis; however, adenovirus is by far the most common cause. Adenovirus portals of entry into the human system are the eyes, nose and mouth. Where they cause infections in the conjunctiva, pharynx (throat) and the intestine. Almost half of the over 47 adenovirus types cause conjunctivitis. The most commonly associated serotypes include adenovirus 8, 19, and 37 and less frequently 2-5, 7, 9, 10, 11, 14, 16, 21, and 29. The two most common self-limiting forms of viral conjunctivitis are - Epidemic keratoconjunctivitis (EKC) and Pharyngoconjunctival fever (PCF). PCF is characterized as the name implies with the triad of pharyngitis (sore throat), fever and follicular conjunctivitis, It may be unilateral or bilateral; and is caused regularly by adenovirus 3 and occasionally 4 or 7. EKC is regularly caused by adenovirus types 8 and 19. EKC often presents as a bilateral inferior, palpebral, follicular conjunctivitis. Factors associated with community outbreaks are the use of pools, overcrowded conditions, poor hygiene rules, and shared use of personal objects and direct physical contact. Infection of humans with any adenovirus type stimulates a rise in complement-fixing (CF) antibodies to adenovirus group antigens shared by all types. The CF test is an easily applied method for detecting infection by any member of the adenovirus group. In the management of the infections, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory eye drops are used to offer some symptomatic benefit without the risk of topical corticosteroids.

Keywords: Adenoviruses; Types; Epidemic keratoconjunctivitis; Pharyngoconjunctival fever.

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