

9.10.6. Ocular Involvement in AIDS (III)

Molluscum Contagiosum

- a DNA virus of the poxvirus family
- small elevation with central umbilication
- immunocompetent individuals: few, unilateral
- involve the eyelids
- patients with AIDS: numerous, bilateral
- symptomatic lesions
- indications for surgical excision: lesions causing conjunctivitis

Herpes Zoster

- patients <50 years with herpes zoster lesions of the face or eyelids should be considered for HIV testing
- corneal involvement can cause persistent, chronic epithelial keratitis
- treatment: intravenous and topical acyclovir
- periodic monitoring for posterior segment involvement

Other Infections

- AIDS does not predispose to bacterial keratitis but bacterial keratitis is more severe and more likely to cause perforation
- herpes simplex keratitis does not have a higher incidence in patients with AIDS but has prolonged course/multiple recurrences and involves the limbus
- microsporidia: coarse, punctate epithelial keratitis with minimal conjunctival reaction
 - electron microscopy of epithelial scrapings: obligate, intracellular, protozoal parasite
- solitary granulomatous conjunctivitis: cryptococcal or mycotic infections, tuberculosis; possibility of dissemination must be aggressively investigated
- orbital and intraocular lymphomas
- conjunctival squamous cell carcinomas

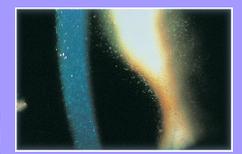


Figure 11-6 (© 2020 American Academy of Ophthalmology)

Precautions in the Health Care Setting

- there are no published reports of HIV transmission in ophthalmic health care settings
- hands should be washed or a hand sterilizer solution used between tests on an individual and between patients
- tonometers, diagnostic contact lenses, and contact lens trial sets should be appropriately disinfected

HIV Infection in Resource-Limited Regions of the World

- effective antiretroviral therapy and education have greatly improved outcomes and decreased the rate of ocular complications in resource-rich nations
- 2.1 million adolescents (ages 10–19 years)
- 3.34 million children
- 35 million people are living with HIV/AIDS 2013
- ≈95% of new HIV infections occur in low- and middle-income countries