Treating the Old with the New: Ocular Therapeutics for Anterior Segment Disease

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Even though clinical presentations of anterior segment diseases remain the same, new advances in ocular medications are constantly changing. The course objective of this presentation is to consider and review the most recent anti-infective, -inflammatory, -allergy topical formulations and their FDA approved indication. This information is related to recent literature on incidence and risk factors for infective ocular disease.

This presentation will discuss recent updates in ocular therapeutic management for conditions such as microbial keratitis and conjunctivitis, allergic conjunctivitis, blepharitis, ocular inflammation and other contact lens related issues. Different classes of drugs and what they are truly approved for and what would be off label treatment will be presented. Acceptable treatment regimens for some of the most common anterior segment conditions will be discussed and alternative options for patients with severe financial limitations will be offered.

Texas has many allergy sufferers and we have a menu of formulations that may be obtained over the counter and by prescription. A review, with emphasis on the latest additions to formulations, will be offered. The options for patients with ocular allergies show a lot of variation with regard to effectiveness and expense. Therapeutic and cost efficacies are to be discussed.

For appropriate patient counseling it is important that the practitioner is aware of the most recent information on the incidence and risk factors of microbial keratitis in contact lens wearers. This course provides a review of the most up to date peer reviewed data available on this subject. Acanthamoeba keratitis in contact lens wearers continues to be a concern for patients and practitioners. A novel, new protocol developed by our laboratory allows visualization of the effect of contact lens solutions on acanthamoeba trophozoites. Examples of this new way of assessing solution efficacy on eliminating acanthamoeba trophozoites will be presented.