



Pathogenesis of the Homeostatic Failure of Ocular Surface as Morpho-Functional Unit—Volume II

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Message from the Guest Editor

The ocular surface is a complex, morpho-functional unit in which multiple anatomical and cellular components cooperate to preserve homeostasis. Self-limiting innate immune mechanisms maintain and restore homeostasis and permit tissues to adapt to injuries and restore their functions. However, if dysregulated, it may trigger overt inflammation, resulting in the clinical signs observed in several ocular chronic disorders. Such a dysfunction may possibly be due to neurogenic, immune, metabolic and hormonal alterations which dysregulate the normal healthy equilibrium. In such patients, the dysregulated inflammatory response is not self-limiting but persistent, leading to a critical shift in homeostatic baseline towards inflammation with changes in immune-responsiveness and vulnerability to illness, underlining the loss of the homeostatic ability of ocular surface, as in other conditions, such as ageing.

The aim of this Special Issue is to investigate clinical inflammatory changes at the ocular surface in several ocular surface diseases in which such homeostatic mechanisms are dysregulated, showing persistent chronic, subclinical or excessive inflammatory response despite the insult.





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