

Measles keratitis

Queratite por sarampo

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Measles is a contagious disease caused by morbillivirus, a virus of the family paramyxoviridae.⁽¹⁾ It evolves through four phases: incubation, invasion, eruption and desquamation. Ophthalmologic manifestations are rare. They may occur during the invasive and eruptive phases.⁽²⁾ Measles keratitis is the most concerning manifestation; it may vary from simple superficial punctate keratitis to corneal perforation.

We report a case of acute keratitis occurring during the eruptive phase of measles in an unvaccinated adult during an epidemic.

A 44-year-old Moroccan woman presented to the emergency room complaining of blurred vision, severe tearing, photophobia and a foreign body sensation in both eyes for two days. The patient is unvaccinated against measles and had a history of measles with a typical rash, fever, and cough for the last week. The patient's visual acuity was 4/10 in the right eye and 3/10 in the left eye. A slit-lamp examination showed white conjunctiva, central epithelial infiltrates of the cornea (Figure 1A and 1B). These opacities were weakly stained with fluorescein (Figures 1C and 1D). The corneal stroma and endothelium were normal, as well as the rest of the intraocular tissues.

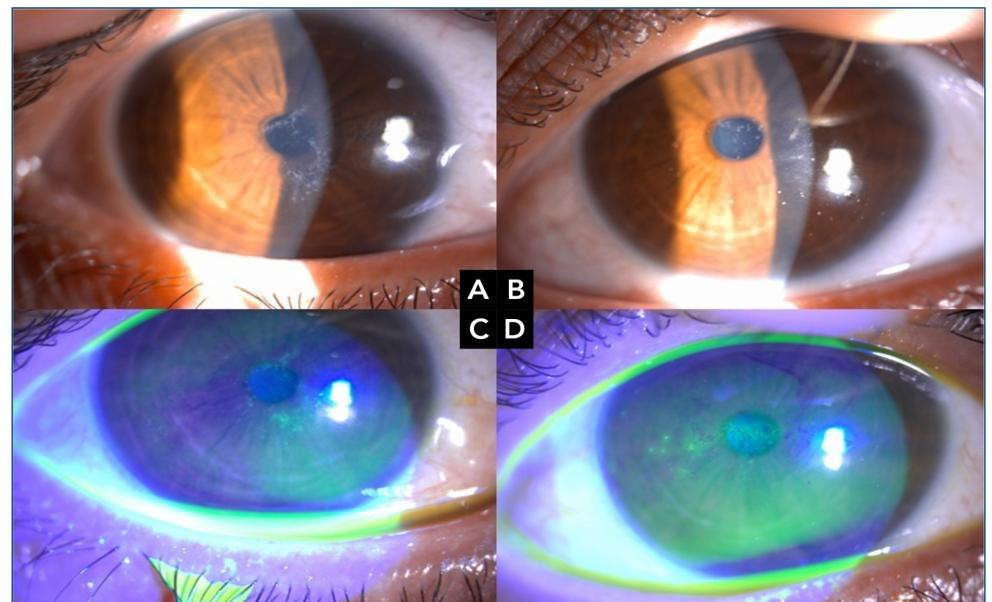


Figure 1. A and B : Central epithelial infiltrates of the cornea. C and D: The opacities were weakly stained with fluorescein.

The patient received antiseptic eye drops, eye wash with physiological serum and preservative-free lubricant eye drops. An improvement was noted two days later, but some epithelial infiltrates persisted, which finally resolved within eight days, with full improvement of symptoms and visual acuity (Figures 2A and 2B).

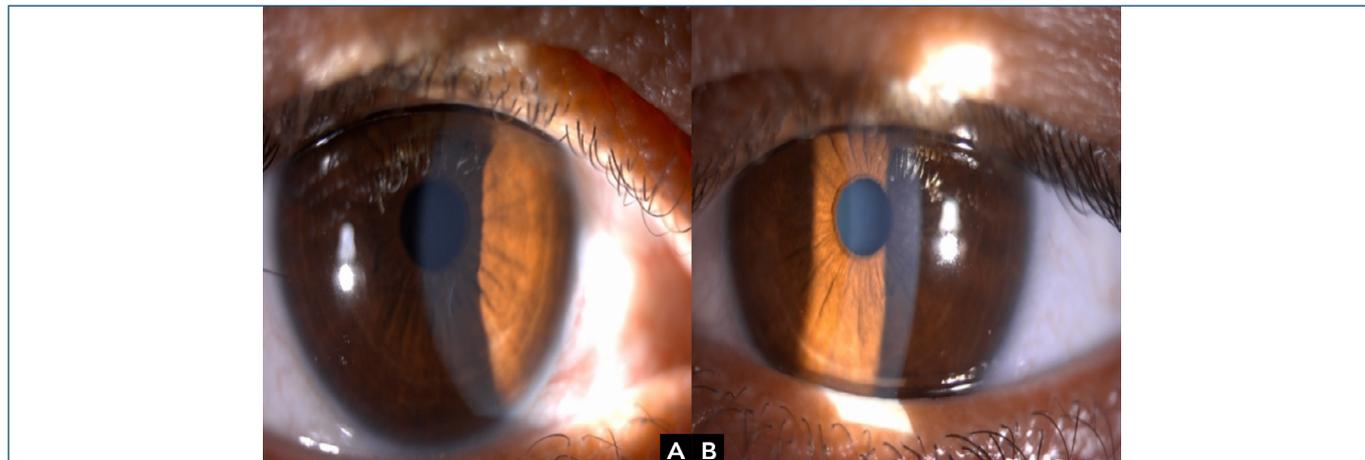


Figure 2. Epithelial infiltrates resolved within eight days.

AUTHOR'S CONTRIBUTION

Laaribi N, Zouaki A, and Reda K contributed equally to writing and critical revision of the manuscript. All authors approved the final version of the manuscript.

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