Sunflower on the cornea: if it was herpes simplex dendritic keratitis

Girassol na córnea: caso se tratasse de queratite dendrítica por herpes-simplex

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A 28-year old man presented to the Emergency Room complaining with redness and pain in the right eye for the past 5 days. The best corrected visual acuity in the right eye was 9/10. Biomicroscopic examination revealed conjunctival hyperemia with dendritic epithelial lesion on the cornea in the form of a sunflower (Figure 1). The lesion stained positively with fluorescein under a cobalt blue filter (Figure 2). The ulcer showed terminal bulbs. Corneal sensation was preserved. Examination of the left eye was unremarkable. A clinical diagnosis of herpes simplex epithelial keratitis in the right eye was made. The patient was started on oral valacyclovir 500 mg twice a day with good improvement. Herpes simplex dendritic keratitis is deeper and shows terminal bulbs, unlike zoster dendritic keratitis or acanthamoeba keratitis.[1,2]



Figure 1. Biomicroscopic examination revealed a dendritic epithelial lesion on the cornea in the form of a sunflower.

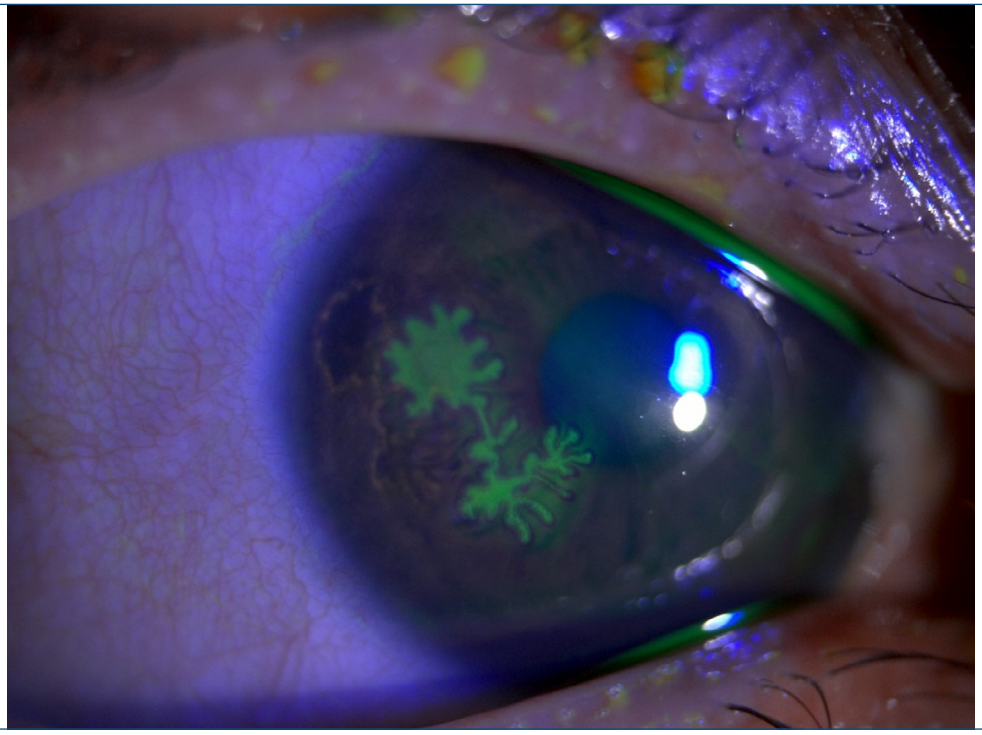


Figure 2. The lesion stained positively with fluorescein under a cobalt blue filter.

AUTHORS' CONTRIBUTION

Laaribi N 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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