School of Optometry and Vision Science

Invitation to Participate – Dry Eye Study

UNSW SYDNEY

Diurnal variations in ocular surface immune response in dry eye subjects

Researchers at UNSW are conducting a study about diurnal variations in ocular surface immune response in dry eye subjects.

You are a potential participant for the study if

- You are above 18 years of age.
- You have signs and symptoms or being diagnosed with dry eyes.
- If you are on systemic anti-inflammatory therapy such as steroids, Immunosuppressants you must not have changed the medications in the past 3 months.
- Your systemic disease activity is under control since the past 3 months.
- You don't have any other ocular pathology other than dry eye disease.

You are not eligible to participate in the study if you fall under any of the following.

- You are currently using or have used any anti-inflammatory eye drops in the past 4 weeks.
- You have dry eye secondary to Steven-Johnson syndrome, cicatricial conjunctival disease, and graft vs host disease.
- You underwent any eye procedures in the last 6 months.
- You are a regular contact lens user or have used contact lenses in the last 4 weeks.
- You are pregnant/breastfeeding women or have given birth within 3 months from the date of recruitment.

Participants will be asked to complete the following research activities if they agree to participate:

- Telephone or paper-based questionnaires will take approximately 2 minutes to complete.
- 3 Clinic visits in 2 days at the School of Optometry and Vision Science, and we expect that each of them will take approximately 20 minutes to complete (except the first visit will take approximately 1 hour).
- Willing to undergo dry eye tests in the first visit along with confocal microscopy.
- **The study involves three visits: Day 1 morning visit (between 8:00 to 11:00) and evening visit (18:00 to 20:00) and day 2 morning or evening visit. Each visit will take approximately 20 minutes. Only the first visit will take around 1 hour, as apart from confocal microscopy you will undergo a complete dry eye evaluation. Confocal microscopy will be performed either in the right or the left eye chosen in a randomized manner.**

A full description of all research activities, including any risks, or discomforts that you may experience while participating in this research is included in the attached Participant Information Statement and Consent Form.

Please contact the following person via email or phone to register your interest in taking part in the research:

Name Soumen Sadhu
Position PhD candidate
Telephone **+61 421892071**
Email **s.sadhu@unsw.edu.au**

If you have questions about the research and would like to contact the Chief Investigator, please contact the following person:

Chief Investigator

Name Fiona Stapleton
Position Scientia Professor
Telephone +61 418868234
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