

Pre-Ocular Tear Film (POTF) and Dry Eye Evaluation



White light evaluation Normal of	observa	ations
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Specular reflection of the ocular surface regular, smooth surface

Blink complete, 12-15/min (<TBUT)

Lid apposition good apposition with the globe along

the entire lid margin (no entropion/ectropion)

Punctum open and good apposition

Debris in the POTF minimal to none

Tear Meniscus TMH Inf (0.2-0.4mm)> Sup

Slight coloration, no frothing or foaming, little to no debris, movement with blink towards the

punctum

Viscosity moderate movement along the lower

tear meniscus

Lashes clear, no debris, no cylindrical

dandruff (CD)

Meibomian glands easily expressed with clear liquid

secretions

Using the meibomian gland evaluator (MGE), rate a 0 (no secretion) to 3 (liquid secretion) for each of 5 glands in the nasal, central and temporal zones of the lower lid for a possible

total of 45. View video at link

provided.1



Normal observations Vital Staining

TBUT > 10 seconds

Fluorescein staining < grade 1 (IER-CCLR/EFRON scale)

or <5 spots on the cornea (TFOS

DEWSII)

Rose bengal/ Lissamine green < grade 1 (IER-CCLR/EFRON scale)

<5 spots on the conjunctiva) (TFOS

DEWSII)

Upper lid margin staining (ULMS)/ <25% width and <2mm length

Lid Wiper Epitheliopathy (LWE) upper conjunctiva) (TFOS DEWSII)

Tear and Dry Eye Disease (DED) Tests Normal Observations

Ocular Surface Disease Index (OSDI) Score <13/100

Dry Eye Questionnaire (DEQ-5) Score <6

Schirmer (w/o anesthesia) 5-10 mm/5 min

PRTT / CTT >10 mm /15 sec

NIBUT >Fluorescein TBUT

LIPCOF none

Osmometer <308 or <8 mOsm/L interocular

difference (TearLab)

MMP-9 <40 ng/ml (InflammaDry)

Lipid layer thickness (LLT) >80 nm

Jones Test patent nasolacrymal system

Tear ferning Type I or II (Rolando's criteria)

TFOS DEWSII diagnostic algorithm for DED

(consult tearfilm.org)² TMH>0.25, osmolarity <308 and

NIBUT >10sec

OSDI<12/100 or DEQ-5 <6.

Meibography (Meiboscale) consult scale 3



- 1. Meibomian Gland Evaluator. TearScience. https://vimeo.com/193398255
- 2. https://www.tearfilm.org/ckfinder/userfiles/files/Tfos_4%20pager%20-%20DEWSII%20 %20FORMATO%20AMERICANO%202017.pdf
- 3. Pult H, Riede-Pult B. Comparison of subjective grading and objective assessment in meibography. Cont Lens Anterior Eye. 2013 Feb;36(1):22-7

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