

# Computer Vision Syndrome (CVS)

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# INTRODUCTION

20 years revolution computer in workplace

safety and health VDT users research

Eye related symptoms the most common

COMPUTER VISION SYNDROME

Treatment and diagnostic cost > US\$ 2 billion /year

# DEFINITION

- The ocular complaints include eyestrain, eye fatigue, burning sensations, irritation, redness, blurred vision, and dry eyes, among others.



one or more complaints



CVS

- Non-ocular symptoms include headaches, pain in the shoulders, neck, or back.

# PATOPHYSIOLOGICAL cause



Ocular surface mechanisms



Accommodative mechanisms

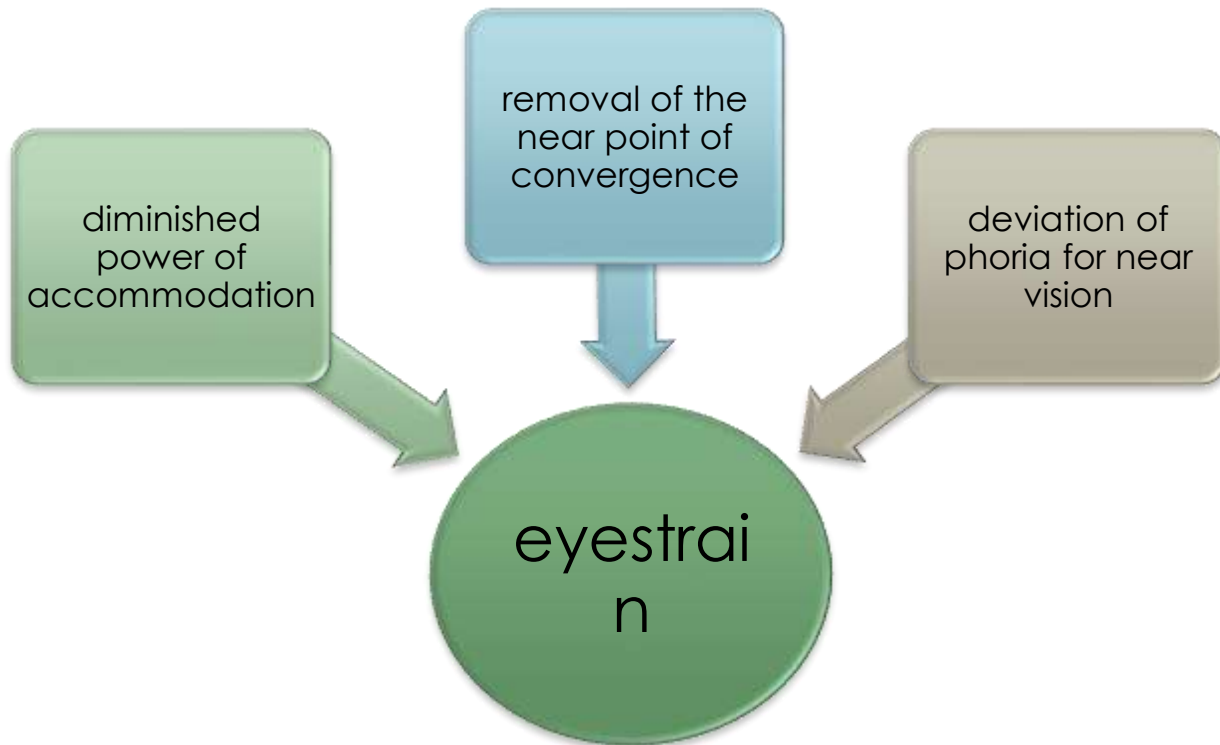


Extraocular mechanisms

# SYMPTOMATOLOGY

- Asthenopia
- VDT operators working 6–9 hours in front of their screens

# ASTHENOPIC symptoms



# VDT and transient myopia

- Accommodative effort during near work → myopia progression
- VDT users experienced a myopic shift of about - 0.12 D after the work period
- transient myopic shift appears to occur after VDT use, but its effect to creating permanent myopic change is unknown

# OCULAR SURFACE RELATED symptoms

- complaints of eye dryness, burning, grittiness, or heaviness after an extended period of time at the terminal
- the blink rate is decreased and the exposed ocular surface area is increased, causing desiccation of the eye

→ Dry eye



# Drying of the ocular surface



## Corneal environmental

- Sensitive to drying



## Reduced blink rate

- a poor tear film quality, temporary stresses the cornea, meibomian gland disease



## Increased Exposure

- wider palpebral fissure



## Sex, female



## Age

# Drying of the ocular surface



Chronic Diseases and  
Disease Syndromes



Chronic medication



Contact Lens Use



Corneal condition



Artificial  
tear replacement

# Visual Effects of Display Characteristics – DISPLAY QUALITY

- The images on a VDT consist of thousands of tiny, bright spots (pixels) or horizontal lines (rasters) that collectively form unresolved images that blur together and lack sharp edges.
- create an understimulation of accommodation and a lag of accommodation behind the image on the screen

# DISPLAY QUALITY

- extent of visual fatigue correlated with both search reaction times and eye movement parameters
- Research : Sentence Words, spacing, high contrast

# LIGHTING AND GLARE

- constant and bright illumination from surrounding sources of light
- because screen reflections are imaged behind the computer monitor initiate inappropriate accommodation responses and affect blink rates
- reduction of reflections and increase of contrast may be obtained from anti-glare filters

# REFRESH RATES

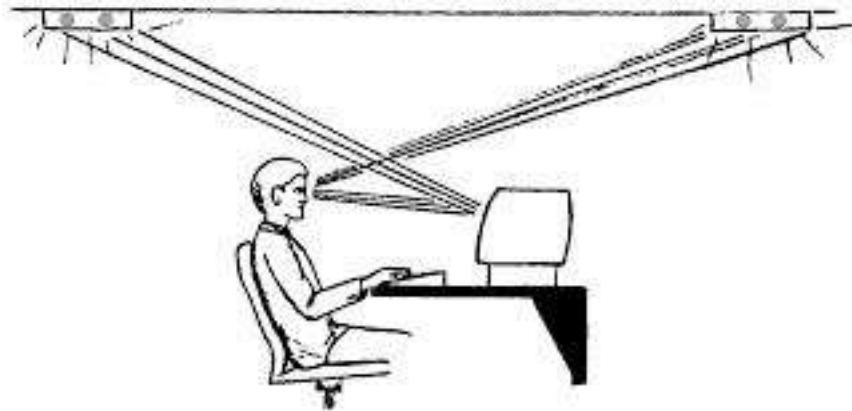
- the number of times per minute (measured in Hz) the screen is repainted to produce an image
- extremely low refresh rates (8 to 14 Hz) could induce epileptogenic seizures
- In most viewing situations this rate is 30 to 50 Hz
- minimum refresh rate on VDT of 75 Hz that minimizes flicker at all brightness levels
- LCD is optimizing worker productivity and minimizing oculomotor effort and eyestrain in electronic reading

# RADIATION

- Ionizing radiation cause cellular changes and affect living tissue through the breaking of chemical bonds and the charging of neutral molecules
- soft x-rays by monitor glass screen

# TREATMENT - LIGHTING

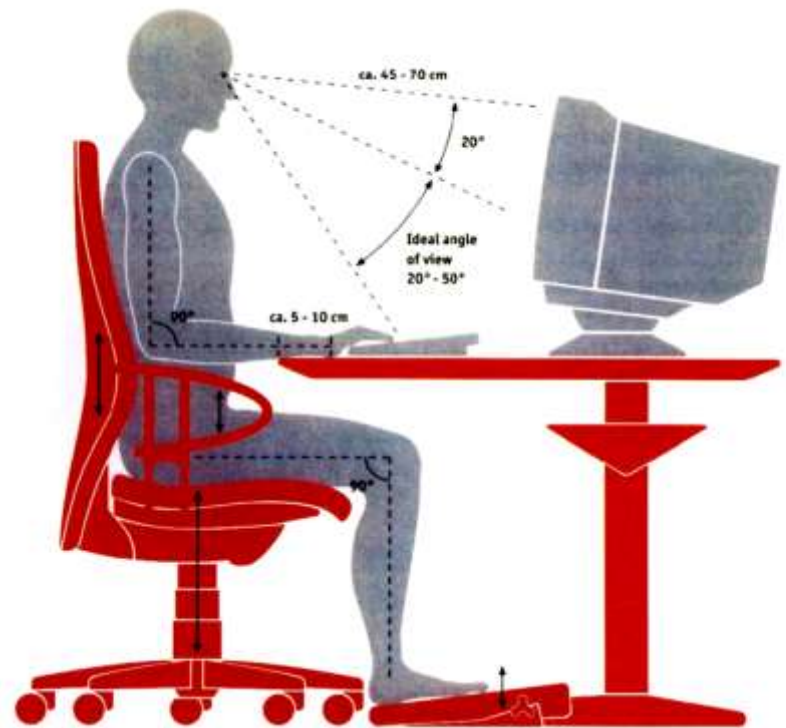
- sodium lamps were the most adequate for high functional capacity of the visual analyzer





# VDT POSITIONING

- the eye should be 16 to 30 inches from the screen
- the screen should be placed 10 to 20 degrees below (or the middle of the screen 5–6 inches below) eye level



# WORK BREAKS

- Work > 4 hours → asthenopia
- frequent breaks are recommended to restore and relax the accommodative system, preventing eyestrain
- looking away at a distant object at least twice an hour during computer usage is sufficient for prevention of visual fatigue
- Taking a quick walk around the office provides stretching of strained and fatigued muscles, a change of scenery, and possible relaxation

PAGE BREAK



# LUBRICATING DROPS

- to relieve the symptoms of dry eyes due to decreased blink rates
- higher viscosity eye drops may be more beneficial than balanced salt solutions
  - normalized the interblink interval and relieved ocular discomfort more efficiently

# COMPUTER EYE GLASSES

- Conventional bifocals are designed for viewing at 16 inches at an angle of 20 degrees or more below primary gaze
- Occupational progressive lenses are incorporate a large area in the top half of the lens for mid-distance viewing (i.e., VDT) and a bottom half of the lens for near distance (i.e., keyboard, desktop)

# COMPUTER EYE GLASSES

- microenvironment glasses (MEGS)  
increase humidity around the eye will alter the tear film dynamics, by increasing the aqueous layer and decrease evaporation due to the increased humidity



# DRY EYE SYNDROME (DES)

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# INTRODUCTION

- a disorder of the tear film which occurs due to tear deficiency or excessive tear evaporation; it causes damage to the interpalpebral ocular surface and is associated with a variety of symptoms reflecting ocular discomfort
- keratoconjunctivitis sicca (KCS)
- Increase infection and complication during operation procedures

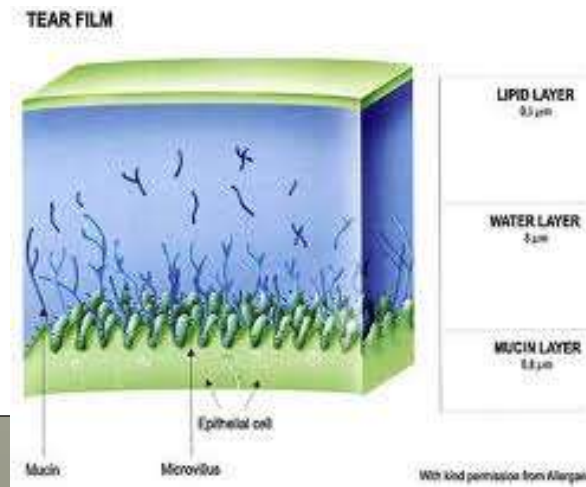


# EPIDEMIOLOGY

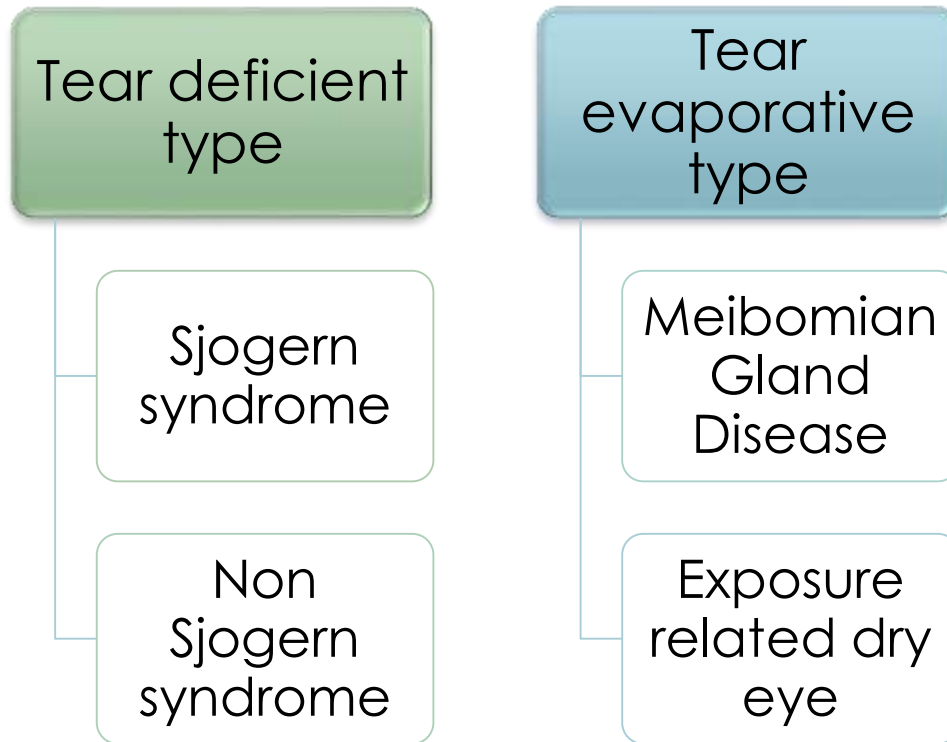
- 1 out of 7 individuals aged 65 to 84 years reports symptoms of dry eye often or all of the time
- Prevalence >> women
- Onset increase at 45 yo due to menopause

# CLINICAL TYPES

- tear film lubricates the eye, maintains nutrition and oxygenation of ocular structures, acts as a refractive component and helps remove debris from the ocular surface.
- Contains anterior lipid layer, a middle aqueous layer and an innermost mucin layer



# CLINICAL TYPES



# ETIOLOGY

## PRIMER



## SEKUNDER

- inflammatory disease**
- environmental**
- Hormonal imbalance**
- Contact lens wear**
- Neurotrophic deficiency**
- Eye surgery medication**
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# PATHOGENESIS

- Decrease lactoferin and EGF
- Increase AQP-5 protein in acinar cell lacrimal gland → protein leakage and lymphocyte infiltration
- Increase cytokine pro inflammation in conjunctival epithelial (IL 1, IL 6)
- Glycoprotein imbalance in tear film → increase sialic acid

# CLINICAL SYMPTOMS

- ocular burning
- foreign body sensation
- stinging sensation
- pain
- Photophobia
- blurred vision

# WORKUP

## Careful history

- DM, thyroid, connective tissue disorder, contact lens wear
- Previous ocular procedures → laser refractive surgery
- Drug history

## Careful ocular examination

- Slit lamp biomicroscopy → blepharitis?  
Symblepharon?
- Staining conjunctiva and cornea

# DIAGNOSTIC CRITERIA

## **Ohashi et al**

a combination of

- (1) dry eye symptoms,
- (2) suggestive findings on Schirmer (< 5 mm wetting after 5 minutes) and fluorescein clearance tests
- (3) fluorescein and Rose Bengal staining (> 3+)

would verify clinical dry eye.



# DIAGNOSTIC CRITERIA - TEST

## **fluorescein tear break-up time test (TBUT)**

- Tear film stability
- interval in seconds between a complete blink and the first appearance of a dry spot or discontinuity in the precorneal film
- less than 3 seconds are classified with clinical dry eye

# DIAGNOSTIC CRITERIA - TEST

## Ocular surface dye staining (Fluorescein and Rose Bengal stains)

- epithelial barrier is disrupted (Fluorescein)
- devitalized epithelial cells on the conjunctiva (Rose Bengal)

## Schirmer test (aqueous tear production)

- (a) without topical anesthesia (Schirmer test I) which evaluates the ability of the ocular surface to respond to surface stimulation → <10 mm
- (b) under topical anesthesia (Schirmer test II) which evaluates basal tear secretion → < 5 mm

# MANAGEMENT

- Artificial tears → to replenish the deficient aqueous layer of the tear film and to dilute inflammatory cytokines
- Topical steroids or non-steroidal anti-inflammatory → Sjogern syndrome associate inflammation
- Topical antibiotics → corneal complication
- Eyelid hygiene and warm lid compresses → Meibomian gland disease

# MANAGEMENT

- Topical immunomodulating agents → Cyclosporine A → reduced T cell infiltration and cytokine
- Autologous serum topical → severe DES, for GF
- Bandage contact lens, rigid scleral contact lens → exposure keratopathy
- Punctal lacrimal occlusion → corneal complication
- Operatif → amniotic membrane transplantation, tarsorrhaphy, keratoplasty, limbal stem cell transplantation, or even ocular prostheses

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

