



Climatic droplet keratopathy in the argentine patagonia

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RESUMEN

PURPOSE: To present the findings of climatic droplet keratopathy (CDK) that affects people of a rural area of the Argentine Patagonia. **DESIGN:** Observational case series. **METHODS:** Five hundred seventy-seven individuals who live in settlements and villages in an inland area of the northwest Patagonia region in Argentina received a complete eye examination. **RESULTS:** The mean age was 36.02 years (r = 1.5 months to 89 years); 55.63% of the patients were female. The mean age of the 7.62% of the patients who had typical CDK was 65.31 years (r = 42 to 89 years); 86.36% of the patients were male. Of 66 eyes in 35 patients with CDK, 35 eyes had peripheral haziness (grade 1); 23 eyes had a band-shaped haziness (grade 2), and 8 eyes had the aggregate of yellow subepithelial droplets (grade 3). Pinguecula, pterygium, cataract, and pseudoexfoliation were frequent findings among patients with CDK. **CONCLUSION:** CDK is not infrequent among male adults in this area of the Argentine Patagonia and may be severely handicapping.

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