JAAD ONLINE: IOTADERMA



What is Secrétan disease?

Robert I. Rudolph, MD, FACP

Answer will appear in the JAAD Online section of the September issue.

JULY IOTADERMA (#317)

Question: Do you know to what distichiasis refers?

Answer: Distichiasis is an uncommon condition in which a person has two rows of eyelashes.¹⁻⁴ Usually the supernumerary eyelash line is a complete one, but sometimes only one or two lashes are noted. The upper eyelids are most frequently affected, but in the "complete" condition both upper and lower lids are involved. Entropion and ectropion, as well as the absence of Meibomian glands, can be present. The condition has been associated with an abnormality of the *FOXC2* gene. This eyelid finding comprises a prominent part of several rare congenital syndromes which can feature renal abnormalities, lymphedema, and other processes.^{1,2} The actress Elizabeth Taylor had distichiasis. The condition has recently been reported as a consequence of cancer therapy.³ Distichiasis, incidentally, is often confused with the even more unusual condition dist**r**ichiasis in which case a patient has three lines of eyelashes!

REFERENCES

- 1. De Niear MA, Breazzano MP, Mawn LA. Novel FOXC2 mutation and distichiasis in a patient with lymphedema-distichiasis syndrome. *Ophthalmic Plast Reconstr Surg.* 2018;34(3): e88-e90.
- 2. Jones GE, Richmond AK, Navti O, et al. Renal anomalies and lymphedema distichiasis syndrome. A rare association? *Am J Med Genet A*. 2017;173(8):2251-2256.
- 3. Tas F, Ozturker C. Distichiasis in association with entropion in metastatic HER2-positive breast cancer treated by pertuzumab, trastuzumab, and docetaxel combination chemotherapy. *Breast J.* 2019. [Epub ahead of print].
- 4. Vreeburg M, Heitink MV, Damstra RJ, Moog U, van Geel M, van Steensel MA. Lymphedema-distichiasis syndrome: a distinct type of primary lymphedema caused by mutations in the FOXC2 gene. *Int J Dermatol.* 2008;47(Suppl 1):52-55.

Robert I. Rudolph, MD, FACP