

TRACHOMA

INFLAMMATORY CONDITIONS OF THE EYE

TRACHOMA

- Definition: trachoma is a chronic granulomatous kerato conjunctivitis caused by chlamydia trachomatis serotype A,B,C.
- If not treated it leads to corneal scarring blindness.
- Disease of poor hygienic conditions and inadequate water supply.

- Chlamydia are closer to bacteria than viruses
- They are obligate intracellular organisms and have cell walls
- They have both DNA and RNA
- Multiply by binary fission and are sensitive to some antibiotics

TRANSMISSION

- spread through personal contact with hands,towels,other cloth material and by flies
- Serverity of inflammation is directly asssoicated with frequency of repeated reinfection
- Frequency of reinfection depends on the factors which promote transmission.

FACTORS FAVOURING TRANSMISSION

- A community environment which is :
- Dry (lack of water)
- Dusty
- Dirty with dung or human faeces
- A family environment which has eye or nasal discharges.

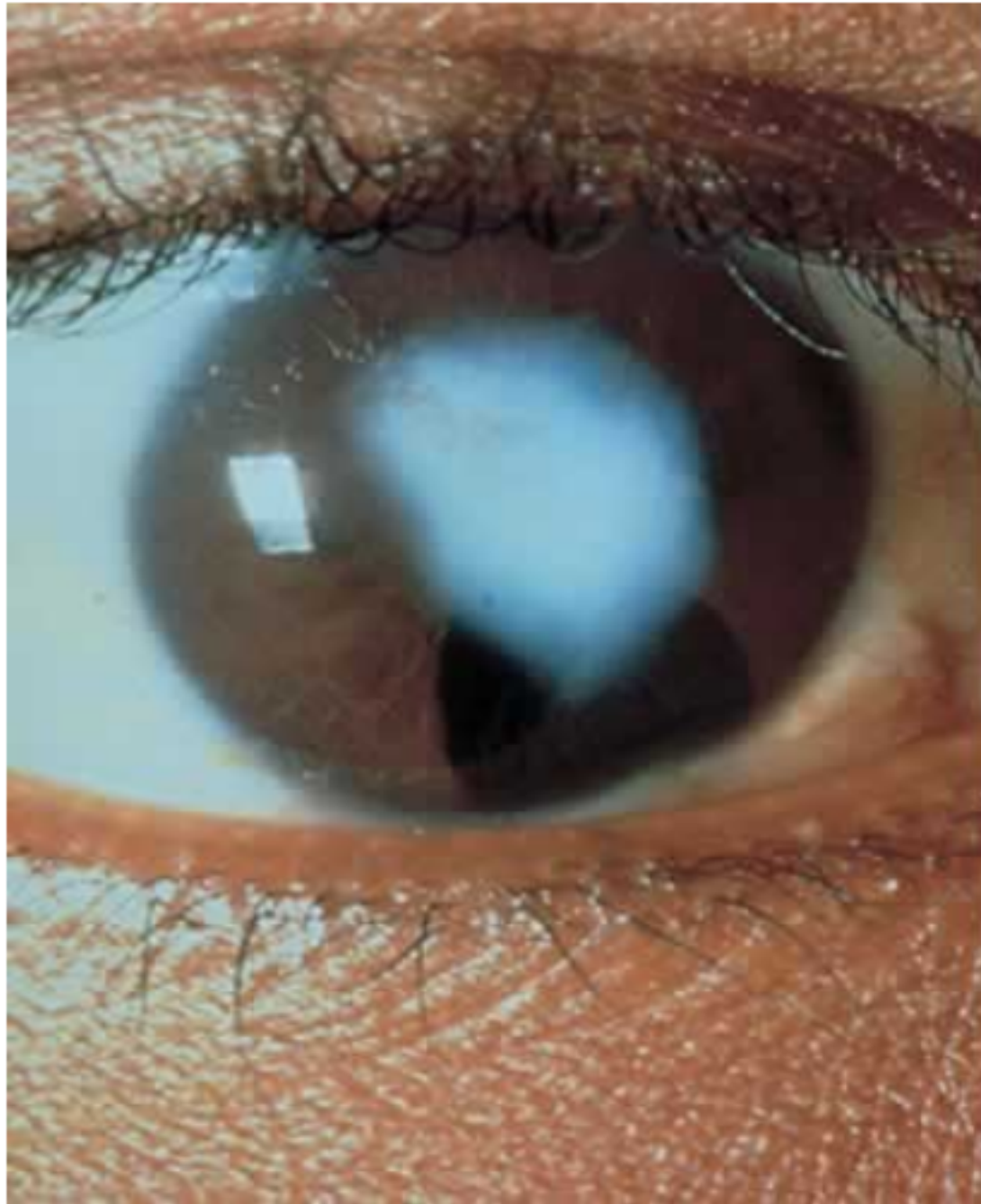
AGENTS OF TRANSMISSION

- Flies
- Fomites
- Fingers
- Females

CLINICAL FEATURES

- Active inflammatory stage ,presents with :
- Red eyes
- Eye discharges
- Swollen eye lids
- Follicles seen on tarsal conjunctiva
- Later in the disease stage there will be scars on tarsal conjunctiva and entropion with trichiasis.corneal scarring is the last stage

TT WITH CO



TF and TI



TS



W.H.O GRADING OF TRACHOMA

- Trachomatous Inflammation follicles(TF) – presence of five or more follicles on upper tarsal conjunctiva
- Trachomatous inflammation intense (TI) – pronounced inflammatory thickening of tarsal conjunctiva that obscures more than half of normal deep tarsal vessels
- Trachomatous scarring(TS) – presence of scarring on tarsal conjunctiva.

- Trachoma triachiasis(TT) – atleast one eye lash rubs on eye ball or evidence of recent epillation
- Corneal scar(CO) – visible corneal opacity over the pupil

MANAGEMENT

- Trachoma is a family and community disease and treatment should be linked to interventions at both levels
- Approach to trachoma management is by use of SAFE strategy
- S – surgery for entropion with trichiasis (epilation is a temporal measure to relieve patient's discomfort)

- A – antibiotics for treatment of active infection/inflammation.
- F – facial cleanliness to prevent infection and transmission
- E – environmental improvement to prevent poor hygienic conditions that favor infection and transmission.
- There are several surgical procedures for TT

- W.H.O recommends bilarmelar tarsal plate rotation.
- Antibiotic of choice for treatment active trachoma is azithromycin oral stat dose but can also use tetracycline eye ointment TDS for six weeks
- Environmental improvement include access and use of water, toilets and hygiene at individual or community level