

Ophthalmologic manifestations of rheumatologic conditions

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Purpose: To review various ophthalmologic and orbital manifestations of rheumatologic conditions.

Methods: Retrospective review of ophthalmologic, oculoplastic and orbital presentations of rheumatologic conditions including sarcoidosis, lupus, orbital inflammatory pseudotumor, Sjogren's syndrome, and Wegener's granulomatosis.

Results: Ophthalmologic presentations such as dry eyes, uveitis, glaucoma, cataracts, eyelid ptosis, proptosis, orbital mass, lacrimal gland enlargement, and nasolacrimal duct obstruction are discussed. Appropriate diagnoses and treatments are biopsy, imaging studies, topical corticosteroids, treatment of the underlying systemic condition with immunosuppressive agents, ptosis repair, and dacryocystorhinostomy.

Conclusions: Ophthalmologic presentations may be the initial manifestation of a rheumatologic condition or may be a later manifestation in the disease course. Treatments are usually immunosuppressive agents. Long-term sequelae may necessitate surgical repair.

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