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**Tears and fears-influence of contact lens wear on the tear film**

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**Background:** When a contact lens is placed on the eye the normal structure of the tear film is altered. This leads to a change in the evaporation rate of the tears and ultimately has an effect on the wearing time and comfort of the contact lenses.

**Content:** The tear film dynamics and the mechanism of tear film rupture will be described in detail as well as the tear exchange process.

We will try to answer the question why do some patients experience discomfort and dryness which increases with time, whilst others wear their lenses for long periods without any complaints.

A detailed explanation on how to clinically evaluate lens-tear interaction will also be given.

**Biography**

David Berkow (Israel) qualified as an Optometrist at the Teknikon in Johannesburg, Republic of South Africa and returned to Israel to start practicing in Optometry. At the time there was no optometry law in Israel until 1991 where he submitted his qualifications and was issued with the certificate from the Ministry of Health (1992).

In 1983, he was awarded Fellowship of The American Academy of Optometry. He has been a member of The British Contact Lens Association for over 25 years. In 1984, he went to London to register as an Optometrist in England. As a foreign Optometrist, he attended the course at the London Refraction Hospital and sat the examinations in order to qualify to register with the G.O.C. After passing, he registered with the G.O.C. keeping up registration until December 2005. He also became a member of The British College of Optometrists and has been a member since. He practices general optometry and has a special interest in contact lenses. Recently he was awarded Fellowship of The British Contact Lens Association

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