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IMPACT OF THE OVERNIGHT ORTHOKERATOLOGY ON THE OCULAR SURFACE

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The ocular surface is an integrated unit comprising the cornea and conjunctiva, together with elements such as the lacrimal drainage apparatus, lacrimal gland and associated eyelid structures. It is a vital part of the eye because it has unique properties and is associated with special physiological mechanisms, such as protection of the ocular globe, tear production and drainage. Due to its functional requirement for vision it is of great importance to preserve its integrity. Evidence shows that myopia is growing around the world; on average 30% of the world´s population is now myopic. Bearing in mind that high myopic values are associated with a higher risk of retinal detachment, glaucoma, cataract and age-related macular degeneration, treatments for myopia control are becoming increasingly important in recent decades. Overnight orthokeratology is considered an effective technique to control myopia progression by molding the corneal surface. The effects produced in the ocular surface during and after undergoing overnight orthokeratology treatment will be discussed.

Biography

María Nombela-Palomo—BSc Optometry, MSc, PhD)—is a Clinician-Scientist with more than nine years' experience performing experiments with a focus on physical optics and corneal response to overnight orthokeratology. She has published six papers in reputed journals along with several oral presentations and posters at national and international conferences. She is currently practicing at Ibervision Optical Centre and collaborates with the Complutense University of Madrid as an External Mentor for students.

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