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## Preface

This book is dedicated to keratoconjunctivitis sicca (KCS, also termed dry eye) (Part I), an extremely common ocular surface disease affecting millions of people worldwide, and to filamentary keratopathy (Part II), per se an unspecific and relatively rare phenomenon the most common underlying condition of which is KCS.

The in vivo captured high-magnification images show in detail the appearance of the ocular surface and of the mucus component discernible in the tear film. KCS is treated as a group with no ambition to grade the severity of the disease or to attribute the individual phenomena to any particular underlying cause. Although the majority of the images originate in patients with Sjögren's syndrome, I believe that they fairly represent the broad spectrum of ocular surface changes occurring in KCS. Included are long-term observations, less common KCS cases and images showing iatrogenic epithelial damage; a separate chapter treats four patients with corneal epitheliopathy occurring as sequela of herpes zoster ophthalmicus.

Filamentary keratopathy is a painful condition characterised by variously large ocular surface appendices termed filaments. The high-magnification in vivo images captured in KCS and some other surface conditions reveal their components which, in conjunction with their dynamics, offer a reasonable explanation of mechanisms behind their formation.

This book differs from current textbooks in that it shows ocular surface changes captured in vivo at a higher magnification level than used in standard slit lamp photography. The photographs show phenomena captured in various illumination modes, before and after staining with diagnostic dyes, and the photographic sequences illustrate their dynamics. The images reflect the in vivo situation, and the advantage is that once aware of the various phenomena, anyone working with a standard diagnostic equipment – the slit lamp and the diagnostic dyes – can easily detect almost all of them.

I hope that the reader dealing with ocular surface diseases, whether a general practitioner, a medical eye specialist, an ocular surgeon, an optometrist, an optician, or a rheumatologist, will find the images presented in this book helpful in estimations of the ocular surface condition, be for diagnostic or research purposes, be before interventions such as contact lens fitting or surgery.

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Keratoconjunctivitis Sicca and Filamentary Keratopathy  
In Vivo Morphology in the Human Cornea and  
Conjunctiva

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2012, XIII, 196 p., Hardcover

ISBN: 978-3-642-31027-0