

## DACRYOCYSTITIS: MICROBIOLOGY AND DRUG SUSCEPTIBILITY

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**Purpose:** To determine the current spectrum and antimicrobial aspect of pathogens causing dacryocystitis.

**Method:** Retrospective study of microbiologic records and results of antimicrobial susceptibility tests collected between April 1995 to June 1998.

**Result:** Twenty isolates of pathogens were cultured from 28 samples of dacryocystitis. The positive culture rate was 60.7%. Gram-negative aerobes (45% of the isolates) were most common in dacryocystitis pathogens and the predominant bacteria was *Klebsiella pneumoniae*. Gram-positive aerobes were present in 30% of dacryocystitis pathogens, and the predominant one was *Staphylococcus aureus*. Anaerobic bacteria were isolated in 10%, and fungus was found in 15%. Most of aerobic bacteria were susceptible to piperacillin, amikacin, vancomycin, ciprofloxacin, ofloxacin, and norfloxacin. Anaerobes were susceptible to piperacillin and chloramphenicol.

**Conclusion:** The native data of microbiology and antimicrobial aspect of dacryocystitis in southern Taiwan could be a preliminary reference of optimizing the antibiotic therapy.

Key words: dacryocystitis, microbiology, drug susceptibility.

### INTRODUCTION

Dacryocystitis is an inflammatory disorder of the lacrimal sac that may occur in acute, chronic recurrent or chronic forms. The inflammation is infectious in origin<sup>1,2,3</sup>. The microbiology of dacryocystitis has been studied<sup>3,4,5,6</sup>. Absence of native data of the infection origin and antimicrobial aspect of

dacryocystitis prompted us to perform this study. This report describes the microbiological findings of patients admitted at the Department of Ophthalmology of the Chung Ho Memorial Hospital of Kaohsiung Medical University with the Clinical Symptoms of acute, chronic or chronic recurrent dacryocystitis between April 1995 to June 1998.

### MATERIAL AND METHODS

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