Studies of eye contamination with *Acanthamoeba* keratitis

Elmahdi SAKHI[1-2-3], Horia RADID[2], Mostafa MOUMNI[3], Mohammed FEKHAOUI[1]

1-Scientific Institut
2-Faculty of sciences
3-hygiene institut

Acanthamoeba keratitis (AK) is a sight-threatening infection. We report zero cases of KA diagnosed between 2016 and 2017 in the Parasitology Laboratory of the National Institute of Hygiene and collected at the Ibn Sina Rabat Hospital. All were associated with hygiene, inadequate care of contact lenses and storage of lenses and washing of eyes by them. Patients had different clinical presentations: corneal inflammation, corneal ulceration and corneal abscess. The diagnosis was made after direct examination, culture and polymerase chain reaction with specific primers. Genotype classification was based on the highly variable DF3 region in the 18S rRNA gene.

Key word: *Acanthamoeba* keratitis, corneal inflammation, corneal ulceration, 18S rRNA gene.