# Article information:

Prevalence and associated risk factors of dry eye disease in 16 northern West bank towns in Palestine: a cross-sectional study - PMC  
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6958733/>

# Article summary:

1. A cross-sectional study was conducted in 16 towns in the Northern West Bank of Palestine to assess the prevalence of Dry Eye Disease (DED) and potential associated risk factors.

2. The study found that the prevalence of DED was 64% in the study population, with older age and female gender being associated risk factors for its development.

3. The study highlights the need for further research on DED in Palestine and emphasizes the importance of identifying and addressing associated risk factors to improve patients' quality of life.

# Article rating:

May be slightly imbalanced: The article presents the information in a generally reliable way, but there are minor points of consideration that could be explored further or claims that are not fully backed by appropriate evidence. Some perspectives may also be omitted, and you are encouraged to use the research topics section to explore the topic further.

# Article analysis:

The article titled "Prevalence and associated risk factors of dry eye disease in 16 northern West bank towns in Palestine: a cross-sectional study" aims to investigate the prevalence of dry eye disease (DED) and its potential risk factors in the Northern West Bank of Palestine. The study was conducted using a cross-sectional design, with data collected from 769 participants using an interviewer-assisted Ocular Surface Disease Index (OSDI) questionnaire and objective tests.

Overall, the article provides a comprehensive overview of the prevalence and risk factors associated with DED in Palestine. However, there are some potential biases and limitations that need to be considered when interpreting the results.

One potential bias is related to the sampling method used in the study. The authors used a multistage sampling method based on the Palestinian central bureau of statistics sampling frame to identify the Palestinian towns participating in the study. While this approach may have helped ensure that a representative sample was obtained, it is possible that some groups were underrepresented or excluded from the study.

Another limitation is related to the diagnostic criteria used for DED. The authors defined DED as an OSDI score ≥ 13 accompanied by at least one of three signs: TBUT ≤10 s, Schirmer score ≤ 5 mm, and fluorescein corneal staining ≥ grade 1. While these criteria are commonly used in clinical practice, they may not capture all cases of DED or accurately reflect its severity.

Additionally, while the article provides insights into several potential risk factors for DED such as age, gender, VDT use, and smoking, it does not explore other potential factors such as diet or environmental exposures that could contribute to DED development.

Furthermore, while the article notes that older age and female gender were associated with an increased risk of developing DED, it does not provide any explanation for why this might be the case. This lack of explanation limits our understanding of how these risk factors contribute to DED development.

Finally, while the article notes that DED can lead to discomfort and decreased productivity among affected individuals, it does not explore other potential consequences such as depression or anxiety disorders that have been linked to DED in previous studies.

In conclusion, while this article provides valuable insights into the prevalence and risk factors associated with DED in Palestine, there are several limitations and biases that need to be considered when interpreting its results. Future research should aim to address these limitations by using more representative samples and exploring additional potential risk factors for DED development.

# Topics for further research:

* Environmental exposures and dry eye disease
* Diet and dry eye disease
* Depression and dry eye disease
* Anxiety disorders and dry eye disease
* Mechanisms underlying the association between age and dry eye disease
* Mechanisms underlying the association between gender and dry eye disease

# Report location:

<https://www.fullpicture.app/item/41f4fd34ff273f7b5971c6a86c849d56>