

ANNEE 2016

N°

**PREVALENCE ET FACTEURS ASSOCIES DE LA SECHERESSE
OCULAIRE DANS UNE POPULATION FRANCAISE AGEE**

THESE

présentée

à l'UFR des Sciences de Santé de Dijon
Circonscription Médecine

et soutenue publiquement le 23 septembre 2016

pour obtenir le grade de Docteur en Médecine

par

Arthur FERRERO

Né le 24 février 1986

A Montauban (Tarn et Garonne)

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au 1^{er} Septembre 2016

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Madame le Docteur Aurore MUSELIER-MATHIEU

A notre Présidente de thèse,

Madame le Professeur Catherine Creuzot-Garcher,

Nous vous remercions de l'honneur que vous nous avez fait en acceptant de présider notre jury.

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Soyez assurée de notre plus grande reconnaissance et de notre plus profond respect.

A notre Juge,

Monsieur le Professeur Alain Bron,

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(#staffchampagne)

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(Je m'adresse bien sur uniquement à ceux qui ont fait le déplacement pour ma thèse ☺)

A **Manue** et **Simon** qui méritaient leur dédicace à part, vous me manquez trop ! (et **Dorian**, et **Maud**)

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Aux patients,

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SERMENT D'HIPPOCRATE

"Au moment d'être admis(e) à exercer la médecine, je promets et je jure d'être fidèle aux lois de l'honneur et de la probité.

Mon premier souci sera de rétablir, de préserver ou de promouvoir la santé dans tous ses éléments, physiques et mentaux, individuels et sociaux.

Je respecterai toutes les personnes, leur autonomie et leur volonté, sans aucune discrimination selon leur état ou leurs convictions.

J'interviendrai pour les protéger si elles sont affaiblies, vulnérables ou menacées dans leur intégrité ou leur dignité.

Même sous la contrainte, je ne ferai pas usage de mes connaissances contre les lois de l'humanité.

J'informerai les patients des décisions envisagées, de leurs raisons et de leurs conséquences.

Je ne tromperai jamais leur confiance et n'exploiterai pas le pouvoir hérité des circonstances pour forcer les consciences.

Je donnerai mes soins à l'indigent et à quiconque me les demandera.

Je ne me laisserai pas influencer par la soif du gain ou la recherche de la gloire.

Admis(e) dans l'intimité des personnes, je tairai les secrets qui me seront confiés. Reçu(e) à l'intérieur des maisons, je respecterai les secrets des foyers et ma conduite ne servira pas à corrompre les mœurs.

Je ferai tout pour soulager les souffrances. Je ne prolongerai pas abusivement les agonies. Je ne provoquerai jamais la mort délibérément.

Je préserverai l'indépendance nécessaire à l'accomplissement de ma mission. Je n'entreprendrai rien qui dépasse mes compétences. Je les entretiendrai et les perfectionnerai pour assurer au mieux les services qui me seront demandés.

J'apporterai mon aide à mes confrères ainsi qu'à leurs familles dans l'adversité.

Que les hommes et mes confrères m'accordent leur estime si je suis fidèle à mes promesses ; que je sois déshonoré(e) et méprisé(e) si j'y manque."

Prévalence et facteurs associés de la sécheresse oculaire dans une population française âgée

Liste des abréviations	15
INTRODUCTION.....	16
ARTICLE	18
Abstract.....	21
Introduction.....	23
Results	29
Discussion.....	32
Author Contributions	36
TABLES AND FIGURES.....	37
CONCLUSIONS	42
References	44

Tableaux et figures

Table 1: Characteristics of the Montrachet population evaluated for dry eye disease.....	38
Table 2: Classification of dry eye disease in the Montrachet population according to the DEWS classification.....	39
Table 3: Global dry eye disease and population characteristics.....	40
Table 4: Age and gender adjusted model of definite dry eye disease with potential associated factors (clinical, lifestyle and demographics).....	41
Figure 1: Flow chart of study population selection.....	39

Liste des abréviations

3C: Three city

BCVA: Best Corrected Visual Acuity

CI: Confidence Interval

DED: Dry eye disease

DEWS: Dry Eye WorkShop

ETDRS: Early Treatment Diabetic Retinopathy Study

HOA: High Order Aberration

IQR: Interquartile Range

LASIK: Laser-Assisted In Situ Keratomileusis

Montrachet: Maculopathy, Optic Nerve, nutrition, neurovascular and HEART diseases

OR: Odd Ratio

OSDI: Ocular Surface Disease Index

SD: Standard Deviation

TF-BUT: Tear Film Break-Up Time

INTRODUCTION

La sécheresse oculaire est une pathologie fréquente, souvent sous-estimée et sous-diagnostiquée. Elle représente environ 25 % des motifs de consultation en ophtalmologie. La fréquence relativement élevée de la sécheresse oculaire, son coût financier et son retentissement significatif sur la qualité de vie et même de la vision en font un véritable problème de santé publique.

La sécheresse oculaire est décrite par les patients comme pouvant entraîner des troubles de la vision : œil sec, rouge, sensation de grains de sable, brûlure, larmoiement, démangeaison... Cliniquement, on retrouve une diminution de la sécrétion lacrymale, une coloration à la fluorescéine anormale (kératite, ulcères, filaments...) et une instabilité du film lacrymal.

De nouvelles définitions de la sécheresse oculaire permettent d'appréhender plus facilement les mécanismes complexes de cette maladie, en introduisant les notions d'atteintes tissulaire et visuelle, d'inflammation et d'hyperosmolarité. L'œil sec fonctionne comme un véritable cercle vicieux biologique auto-entretenu dans lequel les malades glissent progressivement ou parfois brutalement sous l'effet d'une maladie autonome ou d'une accumulation de facteurs de risque. Une fois le cycle enclenché, la sécheresse peut s'autonomiser par rapport à sa cause, et il devient alors très difficile de bloquer les mécanismes qui entretiennent la kératite et l'inflammation chronique de la surface oculaire.

Du fait de cette complexe définition il est souvent difficile de classer nos patients atteints de sécheresse oculaire. Les grandes études épidémiologiques retrouvent des prévalences allant de 3,1 % à plus de 90 % en fonction des critères utilisés pour définir la sécheresse oculaire et des populations étudiées. Du fait de cette variation les facteurs associés ne sont pas encore clairement définis, hormis l'âge avancé et le sexe féminin.

L'objectif de notre étude était d'évaluer la prévalence de la sécheresse oculaire dans une population française de sujets âgés de plus de 75 ans et d'analyser les facteurs associés.

ARTICLE

Dry eye disease in the elderly in a French population-based study (The Montrachet study: Maculopathy, Optic Nerve, nutrition, neurovascular and HEArT diseases): Prevalence and associated factors.

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- 30 **Running head:** Prevalence of dry eye disease in the elderly

Abstract

Purpose: To estimate the prevalence of DED in the Montrachet population aged of 75 years and over, and to describe associations of DED with risk factors.

Design: Population-based study.

Subjects: Participants from the Montrachet study recruited from the ongoing population-based 3C study in Dijon, Burgundy, France.

Methods: Nine thousand three hundred and ninety-four individuals older than 65 were included in the 3C cohort study since 1999 from 3 French cities (Bordeaux, Dijon and Montpellier). In Dijon, an additional ophthalmic examination was performed ten years later to assess the relation between systemic age-related degenerative and eye diseases in the Montrachet Study (Maculopathy. Optic Nerve. nuTRition. neurovAsCular and HEarT diseases). Dry eye symptoms were collected with self-reported history of dry eye symptoms, use of artificial tears and evaluated by the Ocular Surface Disease Index (OSDI) questionnaire. Every patient underwent an ophthalmic evaluation which included Schirmer I test without anesthesia, tear film break up time measurement and fluorescein corneal staining evaluation. Prevalence of dry eye disease was evaluated according to the Dry Eye Workshop definition of 2007.

Main outcome measure: Prevalence of dry eye disease.

Results: One thousand and forty-five subjects were included in the study. Mean age was 82.2 ± 3.8 years old. Prevalence of dry eye disease according to subjective symptoms and objective signs were 34.5% and 34.3%, respectively. Patients with both signs and symptoms represented 13.0% of the cases. Associated factor reported were gender, age, short secondary school, history of no sun protection, dark iris color, BCVA < 20/60, systemic hypertension, use of antihypertensive drugs, use of preserved and unpreserved eye drops and history of cataract extraction.

57 **Conclusions:** DED is a major ophthalmologic condition with a high prevalence
58 among the elderly. We reported well-known associated factor and new associations
59 deserving further investigations.
60

Introduction

Dry eye disease (DED) is a chronic and progressive condition. Symptoms of DED are hugely prevalent, and in case of severe disease, can be difficult to treat.¹ Patients describe their symptoms as feeling of dryness, grittiness or soreness worsening throughout the day, burning and red eyes, temporarily blurred vision and visual discomfort. Signs of DED are unspecific. Most common clinical signs of severe DED or *keratoconjunctivitis sicca* are: redness, corneal and/or conjunctival staining with dye, inhomogeneity of the tear film and poor tear secretion assessed with Schirmer test.² Complications of DED can be vision threatening and include corneal neovascularization, bacterial keratitis and perforation.

Dry eye disease is divided in two main categories: excessive tear evaporation and insufficient tear production.³ The International Dry Eye Workshop (DEWS) defined DED as « a multifactorial disease of the tears and ocular surface that results in symptoms of discomfort, visual disturbance, and tear film instability with potential damage to the ocular surface (...)». ⁴ Increased osmolarity of the tear film and inflammation of the ocular surface were also included in this definition. Hence, DED may be difficult to evaluate because it is a multifactorial disorder involving multiple interacting mechanisms.

All epidemiological studies covered a wide range of age for included subjects.⁵ Elderly population-based studies help us to better identify the characteristics of aging subjects. Several studies have already assessed DED prevalence in various populations. Dry eye disease prevalence was found in 4.3% of the Physicians' health study population,⁵ 7.8% in the Women's health study,⁶ 14.4% in the Beaver Dam eye study⁷ and 14.6% in the Salisbury eye study.⁸ Recently, the Alienor study reported a prevalence of 21.9% in a population whose mean (SD) age was 80.0 (4.0) years old.⁹ Other studies published prevalence varying from 3.1%¹⁰ to 93.2%,¹¹ depending on the population studied and the criteria used for the definition. This variation illustrates the difficulty to assess the prevalence of DED and

89 to establish comparison between population and countries. For these reasons, risk
90 factors, except for gender, age, hormonal changes and history of refractive surgery
91 remains putative.¹²

92 The aim of this study was first to estimate the prevalence of DED in the
93 Montrachet population aged of 75 years and over, and then to describe associations
94 of DED with risk factors.

Material and Methods

Montrachet population

The Montrachet study (Maculopathy Optic Nerve and nuTRition neurovAsCular and HEarT disease) is an ancillary study of the population-based study, the Three-City (3C) study, which examined the vascular risk factors for dementia.¹³ The 3C study, included 9294 persons aged 65 years and over, selected from the electoral rolls of three French urban cities (Bordeaux, Dijon and Montpellier). In Dijon, 4931 participants participated in the first run of the 3C Study in 1999. At the fifth run, ten years later, a subgroup of participants was invited to participate in the Montrachet study investigating the relationship between age-related eye disease, neurologic and heart disease in the elderly. From 22 October 2009, until 31 March 2013, 1153 volunteers were recruited in the Montrachet study.

The methodology of the Montrachet study and baseline characteristics of volunteers have already been described.¹⁴ In short, participants underwent a complete eye examination in the Department of Ophthalmology of the Dijon University Hospital, France. Fasting blood samples were drawn to measure plasma carotenoids and fatty acids. All participants were asked to complete a questionnaire about lifestyle (alcohol consumption and smoking status), environment (sun exposure) and nutrition (food frequency questionnaire). The study was approved by the regional ethics committee and was registered as 2009-A00448-49. All participants gave their informed consent and the followed procedures were in accordance with the Helsinki Declaration of 1975.

Ocular surface evaluation

Symptoms were evaluated by the Ocular Surface Disease Index (OSDI) questionnaire.^{15, 16} The 12 items of the OSDI questionnaire resumed the main symptoms related to DED and were graded on a scale from 0 to 4. The total OSDI score was calculated from subject's response with the following formula: OSDI = [sum of the scores for all questions answered × 100]/total number of questions

answered] ×4. Then, the grade of DED severity was evaluated with the OSDI chart. To be consistent with latest studies, a score < 22 was considered as normal, between 22 and 35 as moderate and > 36 as a severe subjective DED.^{9, 15} Patients mentioned the use of topical treatment either to treat their ocular dryness or other ocular conditions (ie. glaucoma, allergy...). We took in consideration the fact that these medications were preserved or not. Self-reported DED was recorded by asking 'Do you know if you have dry eye disease?'. If details were needed, DED was described as a feeling of dryness or grittiness and burning eyes.

Ocular surface was studied with the following tests performed successively in both eyes. Fluorescein tear film breakup time (TF-BUT) was evaluated at the slit-lamp using a blue cobalt illumination. A sterile tip was used to instill a drop of about 2 µL of fluorescein (Fluoresceine Faure 0.5% single dose, Novartis, Rueil-Malmaison, France) in each conjunctival sac. After a few blinks (at least three) the timing of breakup of the pre-corneal tear film was recorded in seconds. The average of three consecutive measurements was used for analysis then corneal staining was assessed and impregnation of 10 isolated points or less was considered as normal.¹⁷ Corneas with more than 10 positive points were classified as corneal staining positive. TF-BUT and corneal staining were recorded in sequence, first on one eye and then on the fellow eye, recording the TF-BUT first. A five-minute Schirmer I test was performed without anesthesia a minimum of 30 minutes after fluorescein assessment. A dedicated paper strip (Liposic-Schirmer-Test-Streifen; Dr Mann Pharma, Berlin, Germany) was introduced laterally in the lower conjunctival fornix without any contact with the cornea and removed after 5 minutes. The amount of wetting in millimeters was recorded from the pre-calibrated strip.^{3, 17} The most severe eye for each subject was retained for analysis. If equal, we arbitrary selected the right eye.

Tear osmolarity measurements were performed in the first 149 consecutive participants. We used a single-use lab-on-a-chip system which simultaneously collect

and analyze the electrical impedance of a 50 nanoliter of tear sample from the inferior lateral meniscus (TearLab™ Osmolarity System, TearLab Corp., San Diego, CA, USA).¹⁸⁻²⁰

Dry eye disease definition

DEWS classification was used to classify every participant (Table 2).⁴ First, we considered separately subjective symptoms and objective signs. Subjective data were analyzed to sort out participants. OSDI score > 22, use of artificial tears or self-reported DED was considered as “subjective DED”. Objective thresholds were positive corneal staining and/or TF-BUT < 5 seconds and/or Schirmer I test < 5 mm. To be considered as suffering from “objective DED”, subjects should present at least 2 out of the 3 preceding conditions. Participants were also classified using the DEWS stages of DED (Table 2). Stage 0 (no DED) and 1 (early DED) included every patient with negative corneal staining and/or TF-BUT > 10 seconds and/or Schirmer I test > 10 mm. Stage 2 (mild DED) included every patient with negative corneal staining and/or TF-BUT < 10 seconds and/or Schirmer I test < 10 mm. Stage 3 (moderate DED) included patients with positive corneal staining and/or TF-BUT < 5 seconds and/or Schirmer I test < 5 mm.

To be included in stage 0 to 3, 2 criteria out of the 3 should be present. To be included in the stage 4 (severe DED), all the criteria should be present: positive corneal staining and TF-BUT < 2 seconds and Schirmer I test < 2 mm. For statistical analysis we considered stage 0, 1 and 2 as normal since corneal staining remains negative. Subjects classified as DED in both subjective and objective classification were considered having a “definite DED”.

Statistics

Descriptive statistics are given as mean (SD) or median [IQR] for continuous variables according to their distribution and number (percentage) for categorical variables. For comparisons, we used the Fischer exact test or χ^2 for dichotomous data and Student’s t-tests, Mann-Whitney, ANOVA, or Kruskal-Wallis tests for

179 continuous variables according to their distribution. Correlations between variables
180 were tested using Pearson or Spearman correlation coefficients. Multivariate
181 analyses were performed using multiple regression logistic models. Models were
182 systematically adjusted for age and sex. In the first step, we investigated
183 associations between DED as a dependent variable and factors associated with $P <$
184 0.20 in bivariate analysis with the individual eye as unit analysis. Deviation from
185 linearity of the relationship between the continuous covariates retained and DED was
186 systematically tested using chi-squared tests for linear trend after having categorized
187 the covariates according to the quintiles of their distribution. Then a final model was
188 performed when the factors associated in age and sex model above were significant
189 with $P < 0.05$. For all analysis, the tests were two sided and significant results were
190 considered when $P < 0.05$. Data analyses were performed using SAS software
191 (version 9.3; SAS institute Inc; Cary, NC, USA).

Results

A total of 1045 subjects had both objective and subjective data about DED (Figure 1). The characteristics of the study population are displayed in Table 1. The mean (SD) age was 82.2 (3.8) years. More than one third of subjects were former or current smokers. The present mean time spent watching a screen was 3.3 (1.8) hours per day.

For DED evaluation, subject selection is displayed in Figure 1. An OSDI score > 22 was found in 224 (21.4%) subjects. A history of DED was reported by 188 (18.0%) subjects and the use of artificial tears by 112 (10.7%). The prevalence of symptoms of DED was 34.5% (364).

A TF-BUT < 5 s, a corneal staining positive and a Schirmer I test < 5 mm were observed in 403 (38.6%), 404 (38.6%) and 267 (25.6%) subjects, respectively. Objective DED was found in 392 (34.3%) subjects. Almost one percent of subjects had severe DED (Table 2). Definite DED in the Montrachet population was found in 136 (13%) subjects.

We found a strong association between self-reported dry eye symptoms and use of artificial tears ($r = 0.64$; $P < 0.0001$). There was no correlation between TF-BUT < 5 seconds and an OSDI score > 22 nor between Schirmer I test < 5mm and an OSDI score > 22. Concordance between signs and symptoms of DED was poor with a Kappa coefficient as low as 0.05 (95% CI; -0.009-0.1). The sensitivity of the OSDI score in detecting definite DED taking clinical signs tests as the reference was 37.8%, while the specificity was 67.4%. The positive predictive value and the negative predictive value were 37.9% and 67.3%, respectively. Indeed, the accuracy of using a combination of the subjective symptoms perceived for DED identification was 52.2%.

In bivariate analysis (Table 3), we found a significant difference between DED groups according to age ($P = 0.04$), sex ($P = 0.02$), current or former smokers ($P = 0.002$), education level ($P = 0.05$), sun protection ($P = 0.02$), Best-Corrected Visual

Acuity in ETDRS letters (BCVA ETDRS) $< 20/60$ ($P = 0.01$), systemic hypertension ($P = 0.01$), antihypertensive drug use ($P = 0.005$), preserved and unpreserved eye drops use ($P < 0.001$) and history of cataract extraction ($P = 0.003$).

After adjustment for age and sex (Table 4), definite DED was more frequent in subjects with short secondary school level (OR = 1.9; 95% CI, 1.1-3.3; $P = 0.02$), with BCVA ETDRS $< 20/60$ (OR = 2.5; 95% CI, 1.1-6.0; $P = 0.03$), with dark iris color (OR = 1.7; 95% CI, 1.1-2.6; $P = 0.02$), systemic hypertension (OR = 1.6; 95% CI, 1.1-2.4; $P = 0.01$), use of antihypertensive drugs (OR = 1.8; 95% CI, 1.1-2.7; $P = 0.01$), treatment with preserved eye drops (OR = 3.2; 95% CI, 1.9-5.4; $P < 0.001$), treatment with unpreserved eye drops (OR = 7.3; 95% CI, 4.5-11.7; $P < 0.001$) and history of cataract extraction (OR = 1.6; 95% CI 1.1-2.3; $P = 0.02$). DED was less frequent in subjects protecting themselves from sunlight (OR = 0.3, 95% CI, 0.2-0.8; $P = 0.02$).

In our final multivariate model, use of antihypertensive drugs and topical treatment was not included due to missing data (13%). Previous associated factors did not change except for history of cataract surgery, which became not significantly associated with DED (Data not showed).

Osmolarity measurement was available for 149 subjects. In order to extrapolate these data to our entire population, we compared participants with osmolarity data with the Montrachet population (data not showed). These 2 populations were similar for every studied parameter except for iris color ($P = 0.04$), use of preserved drops ($P = 0.02$) and AMD status ($P < 0.001$). Analysis in this group revealed that the mean tear film osmolarity was significantly higher in patients with DED ($n = 19$ (12.8%); mean (SD): 322 (25) mOsm) compared with the non-DED patients ($n = 130$ (87.2%); mean (SD): 310 (16) mOsm; $P = 0.002$). This difference was also found in objective DED versus non-DED: $n = 49$ (32.9%); 316 (21) mOsm and $n = 100$ (67.1%); 309 (15) mOsm, respectively ($P = 0.03$). Conversely, no difference of the tear film osmolarity was found using the subjective DED

248 classification: 105 (70.5%) participants presented subjective symptoms of DED with a
249 mean (SD) of 311 (23) mOsms and 44 (29.5%) had no symptoms with a mean (SD)
250 of 312 (15) mOsms ($P = 0.80$). Analysis in this group did not reveal any correlation
251 between OSDI score > 22 and an elevated tear film osmolarity, neither between
252 osmolarity value and DED group. However, a Schirmer test < 5 mm was correlated
253 with an elevated tear film osmolarity ($r = 0.41$; $P < 0.0001$).

Discussion

The objective of this study was to assess the prevalence of DED in the elderly according to the DEWS classification. In our population, we defined DED as objective based on three clinical parameters: TF-BUT, corneal staining and Schirmer I test; and as subjective based on OSDI score, use of symptomatic treatment for DED and self-declaration of DED. We found that the prevalence of DED was 34.3% and 34.5% for objective and subjective signs, respectively. Thirteen percent of our population presented definite DED. The sensitivity of the OSDI score in detecting definite DED when compared with clinical signs tests was 37.8%, while the specificity was 67.4%. Associated factors were gender, age, short secondary school, history of no sun protection, dark iris color, BCVA < 20/60, systemic hypertension, use of antihypertensive drugs, use of preserved and unpreserved eye drops and history of cataract extraction.

Differences in DED definition make comparison between studies difficult.²¹ In the Salisbury eye study, DED prevalence was 4.5% on participants over 80 years-old with more than one symptom and at least one clinical sign (Schirmer I test or corneal staining positive).⁸ Our population presents a higher prevalence of DED in the symptomatic subjects with clinical signs (13%). The Salisbury eye study did not include the instability of the tear film in their clinical signs. As meibomian gland dysfunction increases with age, we included the TF-BUT, leading to a higher prevalence of DED.²² Our results on the TF-BUT < 5 seconds are consistent with the Alienor study which reported a TF-BUT < 5 seconds in 44.9% of their subjects (38.6% in the Montrachet population).⁹

In most population-based studies, classification of DED was done with self-reported symptoms. The Beaver Dam eye study, the Blue mountains eye study and the Beijing eye study reported prevalence of symptomatic DED of 14.0%, 15.3% and 16.6%, respectively.^{7, 23, 24} Our result of self-reported DED is in agreement with these studies with a reported a prevalence of 18%. When considering not only symptoms but also clinical signs, we found a lower DED prevalence (13%). Lower subjective results, based on a questionnaire evaluating symptoms were reported by the Women's health study (9.8%) and the Physician's health study (7.7%).^{5, 6} However, in these two large studies 28% of women and 18% of men reported having

“sometimes” symptoms of dryness. Our study has gone a step further using a DED definition including objective signs and subjective symptoms.

None of the previous reported measurements presented high specificity or sensitivity to be considered as a gold standard to diagnose DED. As reported by Nichols *et al.*, no consistent relationship was found between objective signs and subjective symptoms of DED in our study.²⁵ Indeed, all objective signs do not induce symptoms of DED as it can be associated with a decreased corneal sensitivity.²⁶ These findings strengthen the need to evaluate the corneal sensitivity of our patient and to combine signs and symptoms to define DED.^{27, 28}

Prior studies have already examined risk factors for DED. Most consistent are age, gender (female), postmenopausal estrogen therapy, history of LASIK or refractive excimer laser surgery, radiation therapy, hematopoietic stem cell transplantation, vitamin A deficiency, Hepatitis C infection and androgen deficiency.¹² Questionable associated factors are systemic medications such as tricyclic antidepressants, isotretinoin, diuretics and beta-blockers; general condition, such as diabetes mellitus and history of ophthalmic surgical procedure with large incision. Tear film changes associated with hormonal modifications and meibomius gland dysfunction in the elderly may explain that in our study, age was found associated with DED.^{22, 29} Denoyer *et al.* reported that corneal higher-order aberrations (HOAs) were increased in DED patients due to the tear film irregularity, decreasing the quality of vision and objective visual acuity.³⁰ This mechanism is in favor to our findings suggesting that a BVCA ETDRS < 20/60 was associated with DED (OR = 2.5; 95% CI, 1.1-6.0; $P = 0.03$). Our results are consistent with previous work as history of cataract extraction is associated with DED (OR = 1.6; 1.1-2.3; $P = 0.02$) in our first multivariate model.³¹ Most accepted hypothesis is that DED may be related to post-operative local treatment more than the surgery by itself.³² Moreover, as DED, the rate of cataract surgery increases with age and there may be a collinearity between these two parameters. In our population, as in Alienor study, low educational level was correlated with DED.⁹ Conversely, the Korean national health study found that high educational level was associated with DED, and rural way of life with no-DED.^{9, 33} In this case, the way of life (rural/urban) may be more related to DED than education (and Montrachet study mostly

included urban population). Diabetes mellitus was not associated with DED in our population with the definite DED definition. However, diabetes mellitus was associated with objective DED (OR: 1.9; IC 95%, 1.2-2.9; $P = 0.004$) in a multivariate analysis (data not showed). The common corneal hypoesthesia reported in diabetics may explain this discrepancy.³⁴ Glaucoma was not reported as associated with DED in our population regardless of the DED definition used. Nevertheless, the use of preserved drops as unpreserved ones was associated with definite DED. As the recruitment for our study began in 2009, ophthalmologists were already informed of the deleterious consequences of preservative on the ocular surface and may have already switched their treatment for DED patients.³⁵ As pointed out by the 2007 International Dry Eye Workshop, beta blockers and diuretics are risk factor of DED with a suggestive level of evidence.¹² These two drugs are the recommended treatment of systemic hypertension.³⁶ Our treated subjects with systemic antihypertensive drugs confirmed the DEWS findings (OR = 1.8; 1.1-2.7; $P = 0.01$). Of note hypertensive subjects (treated or not) were more likely to suffer from DED (OR = 1.6; 1.1-2.4; $P = 0.01$). Finally, tear hyperosmolarity is known to be responsible for a cell suffering, and to promote keratitis.¹⁹ Lemp *et al.* reported similar osmolarity values as ours for non to moderate dry eye subjects at 308 mOsm.¹⁸ According to their study, DED subjects tended to have a more elevated tear film osmolarity around 315 mOsm (322 mOsm in the reported population).

We acknowledge several limitations to this study. First, corneal staining was only recorded as present or absent. We were not able to apply the entire Oxford classification, limiting the accuracy of our clinical classification. Second, we considered subjects with mild DED as normal. Despite the DEWS classification depicted mild subjects suffering from DED, this choice was made in agreement with other studies considering than TF-BUT > 5 second, corneal staining negative or a Schirmer test > 5 millimeters as normal.⁸ Indeed, DEWS classification is difficult to apply strictly in epidemiological study.²¹ Third, corneal aesthesia was not recorded. With this criterion, we may have sorted subjects with severe objective DED with no symptoms in definite DED. Therefore, we may have excluded potential subjects from the definite DED classification, and virtually lowering our prevalence. Fourth, osmolarity

measurements concerned only a part of our population and were only done once per participants. However, in order to extrapolate these data to our entire population, we compared participants with osmolarity data with the entire Montrachet population. Difference were found in only 3 of the studied parameters, allowing us to consider the osmolarity subgroup comparable. As there was only one measurement, we were not able to evaluate intereye variation in tear osmolarity. Indeed, Lemp *et al.* reported that not only the highest value of osmolarity was a good diagnostic criterion of DED but also the difference between two measurements.¹⁸ Fifth, this study only deals with a white and urban population; therefore, the results cannot be extrapolated to other groups.

The strength of this study include its large sample of population, the strict criteria used for DED definition and potential associated risk factors analysed. We may add the fact that all of our subjects underwent a clinical examination of the ocular surface with four different clinical diagnostic test performed.

This study provided epidemiological data on dry eye among the elderly. DED is a major ophthalmologic condition with a high prevalence among the elderly. We reported well-known associated factor such as female gender, age, poor visual acuity, history of cataract surgery, use of hypotensive drugs, use of preserved or unpreserved drops and an O-level of education. The new associations such as history of no sun protection, dark iris and systemic hypertension deserve further investigation.

357 **Author Contributions**

358 Conception and design: Creuzot-Garcher, Bron

359 Data collection: Nicot, Gascard, Ferrero, Alassane, Creuzot-Garcher, Bron

360 Analysis and interpretation: Ferrero, Alassane, Creuzot-Garcher, Bron

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367 Overall responsibility: Creuzot-Garcher, Bron

TABLES AND FIGURES

Table 1: Characteristics of the Montrachet population evaluated for dry eye disease

	n (%)
Age	
<80	397 (34.8)
80-85	481 (42.1)
>85	264 (23.1)
Female sex	717 (62.8)
Former or current smokers	387 (34.5)
BMI ≥ 25 kg/m²	550 (48.2)
Alcohol consumption	64 (6.4)
Education level	
No education or primary school	323 (28.3)
Short secondary school	159 (13.9)
Long secondary school	206 (18.1)
High school ou university	453 (39.7)
Iris Color	
Blue/Gray	462 (40.5)
Green/Brown	355 (31.1)
Dark brown	325 (28.5)
Sun protection	
Never	112 (9.9)
Occasionally	257 (22.6)
Often	768 (67.6)
Best Corrected Visual Acuity, ETDRS	
$\geq 20/60$	1048 (97.8)
<20/60	94 (8.2)
Central corneal thickness μm, mean (SD)	554.6 (35.2)
Medical history	
Systemic blood pressure $>160/95$	669 (58.6)
Diabetes (yes)	93 (9.2)
Ocular history	
Cataract extraction (yes)	562 (49.2)
Diabetic Retinopathy (yes)	9 (0.8)
Age-Related Macular Degeneration (yes)	39 (3.7)
Glaucoma (yes)	135 (11.8)
Ocular hypertension (yes)	38 (3.3)
Medical use	
Antihypertension drug use (yes)	612 (60.7)
Lipids lowering drug use (yes)	423 (42.0)
Eye drop use (yes)	233 (24.8)
Preserved eye drop	120 (12.8)
Unpreserved eye drop	113 (12.0)
Time spent outdoors (h/day), mean (SD)	0.9 (1.2)
Time spent on television screen (h/day), mean (SD)	3.3 (1.8)
Time spent on computer screen (h/day), mean (SD)	0.5 (1.0)

Missing data for smokers (n=19), BMI (n=100), Alcohol consumption (n=134), education level (n=1), sun protection (n=5), central corneal thickness (n=4), systemic blood pressure (n= 100), diabetes (n=135), AMD (n=78), glaucoma (n=1), antihypertension drug use (n=134), lipids lowering drugs (n=134), eye drop use (n=105), time spent outdoors (n=4), time spent on TV (n=20) and time spent on computer (n=29).

Figure 1: Flow chart of study population selection

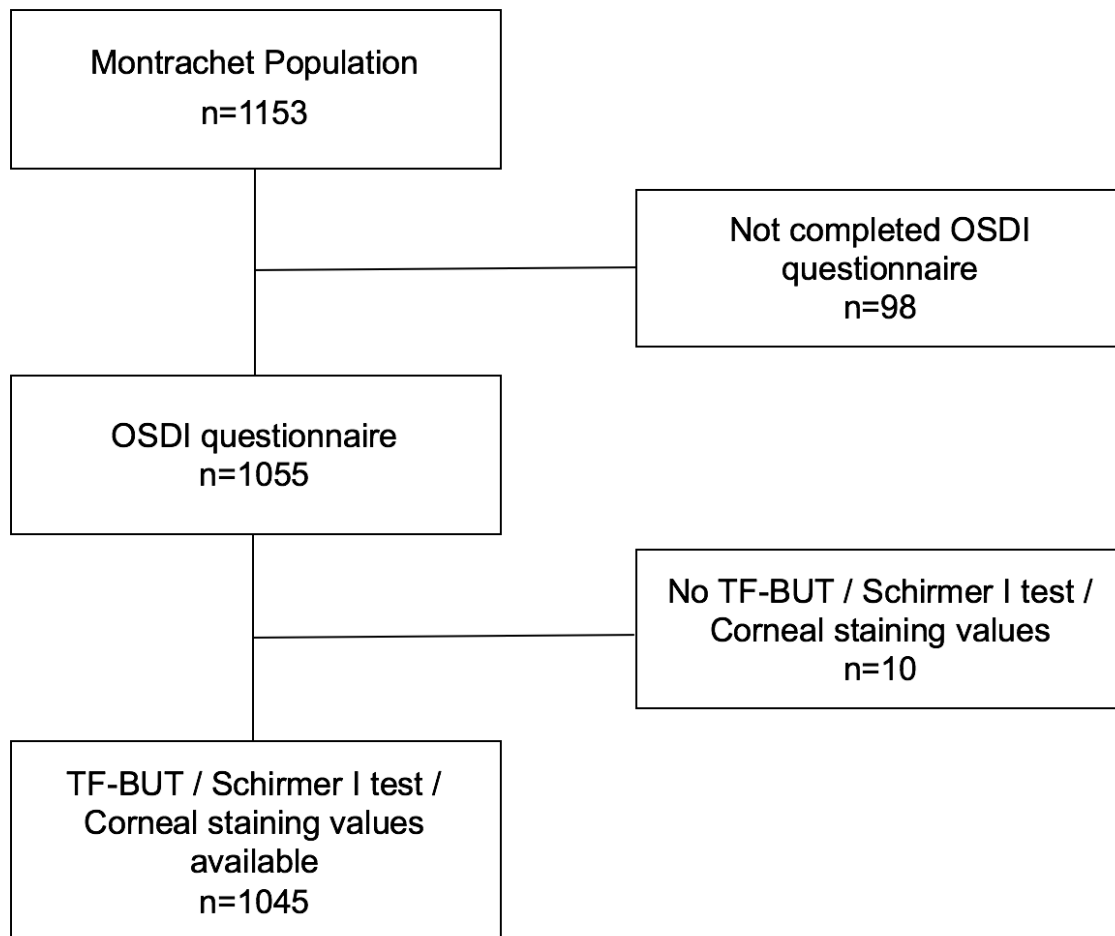


Table 2: Classification of dry eye disease in the Montrachet population according to the DEWS classification

	Clinical signs			
	TF-BUT ≥ 10 Schirmer ≥ 10 CS-	TF-BUT < 10 Schirmer < 10 CS-	TF-BUT < 5 Schirmer < 5 CS+	TF-BUT ≤ 2 Schirmer ≤ 2 CS+
	Normal	Early	Moderate	Severe
n (%)	478 (41.9)	272 (23.8)	379 (33.2)	13 (1.1)

CS-: negative corneal staining; CS+: positive corneal staining

Table 3: Global dry eye disease and population characteristics

	Global DES (n=1045)		P-value
	No (n=909)	Yes (n=136)	
Age (years), mean (SD)	82.2 (3.7)	82.9 (4.1)	0.04
≤80	314 (34.5)	44 (32.3)	0.16
80-85	395 (43.5)	52 (38.2)	
>85	200 (22.0)	40 (29.4)	
Female sex	549 (60.4)	101 (74.3)	0.002
Former or current smokers	323 (36.1)	33 (24.6)	0.009
Alcohol consumption (yes)	53 (6.6)	6 (4.9)	0.47
Body Mass Index (kg/m²)			
≤25	472 (51.9)	71 (52.2)	0.95
>25	437 (48.1)	65 (47.8)	
Education level			
No education or primary school	258 (28.4)	37 (27.2)	0.05
Short secondary school	119 (13.1)	26 (19.1)	
Long secondary school	161 (17.7)	31 (22.8)	
High school ou university	370 (40.8)	42 (30.9)	
Sun protection			
Never	97 (10.7)	5 (3.7)	0.02
Occasionally	203 (22.4)	28 (20.6)	
Often	607 (66.9)	103 (75.7)	
Iris Color			
Blue/Gray	377 (41.5)	47 (34.6)	0.08
Green/Brown	283 (31.1)	39 (28.7)	
Dark brown	249 (27.4)	50 (36.8)	
Best Corrected Visual Acuity, ETDRS letters			
≥20/60	840 (92.4)	117 (86.0)	0.01
<20/60	69 (7.6)	19 (14.0)	
Central corneal thickness, μm, mean (SD)	554.6 (34.8)	550.3(38.6)	0.19
Medical history			
Diabetes (yes)	75 (9.4)	11 (9.0)	0.89
Systemic blood pressure >160/95	520 (57.2)	93 (68.4)	0.01
Age-Related Macular Degeneration (yes)	32(3.8)	7 (5.5)	0.37
Diabetic Retinopathy (yes)	8 (0.9)	1 (0.7)	0.86
Glaucoma (yes)	104 (11.5)	22 (16.2)	0.12
Ocular Hypertension ≥21 mmHg	28 (3.1)	4 (2.9)	0.93
Cataract extraction (yes)	430 (47.3)	83 (61.0)	0.003
Lipid lowering drug use	348 (43.6)	44 (36.1)	0.12
Antihypertension drug use	471 (59.0)	88 (72.1)	0.005
No Eye drop use	655 (80.0)	52 (43.0)	<0.001
Preserved eye drop (yes)	95 (11.6)	25 (20.7)	
Unpreserved eye drop (yes)	69 (8.4)	44 (36.4)	
Environmental exposition			
Time spent outdoors (h/day), mean (SD)	0.9 (1.2)	0.84 (1.2)	0.38
Time spent on television screen (h/day), mean (SD)	3.2 (1.8)	3.2 (1.6)	0.68
Time spent on computer screen (h/day), mean (SD)	0.5 (1.0)	0.4 (0.8)	0.36
Total cholesterol, g/L, mean (SD)	5.8 (0.9)	5.8 (0.9)	0.90
HDL cholesterol, g/L, mean (SD)	1.7 (0.4)	1.7 (0.4)	0.18
LDL cholesterol, g/L, mean (SD)	3.6 (1.0)	3.6 (0.8)	0.89

Table 4: Age and gender adjusted model of definite dry eye disease with potential associated factors (clinical, lifestyle and demographics)

	Global DED		
	OR	95% CI	P-value
Former or current smokers	0.7	0.5-1.2	0.18
Education level vs High school			
No education or primary school	1.2	0.7-1.9	0.56
Short secondary school	1.9	1.1-3.3	0.02
Long secondary school	1.5	0.9-2.5	0.10
Sun protection vs Often			
Never	0.3	0.2-0.8	0.02
Occasionally	0.8	0.5-1.3	0.40
Iris color vs blue			
Green	1.1	0.7-1.7	0.79
Dark	1.7	1.1-2.6	0.02
BCVA <20/60	2.5	1.1-6.0	0.03
Central corneal thickness, μm	1.0	0.9-1.0	0.26
Systemic Hypertension	1.6	1.1-2.4	0.01
Glaucoma	1.5	0.9-2.5	0.13
Cataract extraction	1.6	1.1-2.3	0.02
Antihypertension drug use	1.8	1.1-2.7	0.01
Lipid lowering drug use	0.8	0.5-1.1	0.18
Preserved eye drop use	3.2	1.9-5.4	<0.001
Unpreserved eye drop use	7.3	4.5-11.7	<0.001
HDL cholesterol	1.1	0.7-1.7	0.78

n=1042 for the final model (3 observations were deleted due to missing values).

Statistically significant *P* values are in bold.

CONCLUSIONS

UNIVERSITE DE BOURGOGNE

THESE SOUTENUE PAR M. Arthur FERRERO

CONCLUSIONS

La sécheresse oculaire est une des pathologies les plus rencontrées en ophtalmologie. Nous rapportons les résultats d'une étude de population ayant pour objectif d'évaluer la prévalence de la sécheresse oculaire selon la classification du Dry Eye Workshop de 2007 au sein d'une population âgée et d'en identifier les facteurs associés.

L'étude Montrachet s'est déroulée à Dijon d'octobre 2009 à mars 2013 et avait pour objectif de décrire la prévalence des maladies liées à l'âge ainsi que des associations avec des facteurs nutritionnels. Sur les 1045 participants de cette étude, une sécheresse oculaire dite objective ou clinique est retrouvée chez 34,3% des participants. Une sécheresse oculaire dite subjective ou symptomatique est retrouvée chez 34.5% des participants. La prévalence globale de la sécheresse oculaire, à la fois objective et subjective était de 13%.

Parmi tous les tests diagnostiques utilisés aucun n'était assez sensible ou spécifique pour permettre de poser seul le diagnostic de sécheresse oculaire.

Des facteurs associés à la sécheresse oculaire, déjà connus, ont été retrouvés : l'âge, le sexe, une faible acuité visuelle, les antécédents de chirurgie de la cataracte, un traitement par antihypertenseur, l'utilisation de collyres avec ou sans conservateurs ainsi qu'un faible niveau d'éducation. De nouveaux facteurs de risque comme l'hypertension artérielle ou une couleur d'iris foncé étaient retrouvé associé à la sécheresse oculaire et nécessiteraient des études complémentaires.

Dans cette étude de population nous rapportons une prévalence strictement définie, en accord avec les dernières recommandations internationales, de 13%.

Le Président du jury,



Pr. C. CREUZOT-GARCHER

Vu et permis d'imprimer

Dijon, le 26 Août 2016

Le Doyen



Pr. F. HUET

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TITRE DE LA THESE : Prévalence et facteurs associés de la sécheresse oculaire dans une population française âgée

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RESUME :

Introduction : Evaluer la prévalence de la sécheresse oculaire dans une population française de sujets âgés de plus de 75 ans au sein de l'étude Montrachet et analyser les facteurs associés.

Matériels et Méthodes : L'étude Trois Cités (3C) est une étude de population incluant 9693 sujets de plus de 75 ans dans 3 villes françaises (Bordeaux, Dijon et Montpellier). Après 10 ans de suivi, la cohorte de Dijon a bénéficié d'une étude ophtalmologique dans le cadre de l'étude Montrachet. Les symptômes de sécheresse oculaire (antécédents et traitements lubrifiants) étaient recueillis à l'interrogatoire ainsi qu'à l'aide du questionnaire Ocular Surface Disease Index (OSDI). Tous les sujets ont ensuite bénéficié d'un examen ophtalmologique comprenant un test de Schirmer sans anesthésie cornéenne, une mesure du break up time et une étude de la coloration fluorescéinique. Cent quarante-neuf sujets ont bénéficié d'une mesure de l'osmolarité des larmes. La prévalence du syndrome sec était évaluée sur des critères subjectifs, sur des critères objectifs et de façon globale selon la définition du Dry Eye WorkShop (DEWS) de 2007.

Résultats : Mille quarante-cinq sujets ont été inclus. L'âge moyen était de $82,2 \pm 3,8$ ans. La prévalence globale était de 13%. La prévalence de la sécheresse oculaire selon les critères subjectifs et objectifs était de 34,5% et 34,3% respectivement. Les facteurs associés retrouvés lors de l'analyse multivariée étaient : l'âge, le sexe, une acuité visuelle inférieure à 20 lettres ETDRS, l'hypertension artérielle, la prise de traitement antihypertenseur systémique, l'utilisation d'un traitement par collyre topique (conservé ou non) et un antécédent de chirurgie de la cataracte. L'analyse complémentaire sur l'osmolarité retrouvait des valeurs plus élevées chez les participants souffrant de sécheresse oculaire que chez les participants sains (322 mOsm versus 310 mOsm ; $P=0,002$)

Conclusion : Les résultats de l'étude Montrachet confirment la difficulté d'évaluer la prévalence de la sécheresse oculaire et l'importance de sa prise en charge chez le sujet âgé.

Mots clés : Sécheresse oculaire, Epidémiologie, Population âgée, Surface oculaire

