

# Ocular Findings of Herpes Zoster Ophthalmicus in Songklanagarind Hospital

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**Objective:** To determine the ocular findings of herpes zoster ophthalmicus in Songklanagarind Hospital and their correlation with visual disability.

**Design:** Retrospective descriptive study

**Methods:** A retrospective chart reviewed 61 patients diagnosed as herpes zoster ophthalmicus from January 1, 2002, to December 31, 2011. Data information included past medical history, visual acuity, intraocular pressure, clinical examination, and treatment. The SPSS version 13 software was used for analysis. Statistical association test was done and  $p < 0.05$  was considered significant.

**Results:** Sixty-one cases of HZO were examined, of which 26 (43%) were male and 35 (57%) were female. 59% of the patients were above the age of 50 years, and 19.7% were above 70. Pain (92%) was the commonest ocular complaint followed by foreign body sensation (89%). Conjunctivitis (89%) was most common ocular involvement followed by eyelid findings (84%) and keratitis (71.7%). Corneal complication was seen in 72% of cases, anterior uveitis in 68% and retinal necrosis 4%. All patients with positive Hutchison sign showed ocular lesions, while 77% of all patients had negative sign. Visual status was good in the majority 76% of patients at presentation. Some patients had poor visual acuity at the last visit from corneal perforation and retinal necrosis.

**Conclusion:** Conjunctival involvement is the most common finding in patients with herpes zoster ophthalmicus. Poor visual acuity is found in the patient with corneal perforation and retinal necrosis. The incidence of severe complication is higher in immunocompromised patients and advanced age. The ocular involvement and past medical history should be detected to prevent ocular complication which caused poor visual acuity.