The Case of the Crinkled Cornea

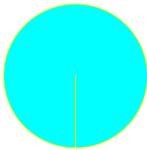
I saw a patient recently whose presentation suggested a possible case for IACLE's Case Report series.

She is a 16 year old with around 4 years' daily disposable contact lens experience - all from my clinic. In fact, lo' these many years ago, it was probably I, myself, who instructed her in the care and handling of lenses.

She came in for her annual. Her eyes are white and quite; vision excellent; no subjective complaints; and my searching history revealed a series of negatives.

My next step was to have my patient remove her contact lenses so that I could have a better look at her cornea and apply some fluorescein to look for asymptomatic staining.

The view I obtained was very instructive, sadly I did not photograph it but here is a drawing of what I saw and it was exactly the same staining pattern in both eyes:



Being the curious and conscientious type that I am, I took a sneak peak at my patient's finger nails - not much there; so, I proceeded to ask her to demonstrate for me how she just then and generally removes her lenses...yes, Scarlet, she pinches them 'ouch' right off her corneae.

I re-instructed her in proper lens removal. It just happens that as part of a promotion the local Ciba chaps were providing a disk with this info in easy to take form - it arrived with her new lenses. She should soon be coming in for her quarterly - I shall again ask her to show me her corneae sans lenses.

Well there you have it. I hope you can do something with it.

Dr. Schendowich is a Member of the Medical Advisory Board of the National Keratoconus Foundation, USA, a Fellow of the International Association of Contact Lens Educators, and an adjunct assistant clinical professor of optometry at SUNY-Optometry in the ophthalmology clinic at the Sha'are Zedek Medical Center in Jerusalem, Israel