1. What measures would help prevent or reduce sight loss from microbial keratitis?

Select all that apply

- a. Prophylactic treatment of simple corneal abrasions with chloramphenicol eye ointment
- b. Rapid referral from primary health care facilities to regional eye units
- c. Use of protective goggles in work situations where eyes might be injured
- d. Improved awareness of microbial keratitis among primary health workers
- e. Reliable availability of appropriate antibacterial and antifungal eye drops

2. To make a diagnosis of microbial keratitis it is necessary to have a slit lamp. True or False?

Select one

- a. True
- b. False

3. Which of the following are helpful in identifying the type of organism causing microbial keratitis infection?

Select all that apply

- a. Gram stain of scrape slide
- b. Presence or absence of a hypopyon
- c. Presence or absence of serrated/feathery edges to the corneal infiltrate
- d. Potassium hydroxide stain of corneal scrape slide
- e. Presence or absence of raised slough on the corneal surface

4. Antimicrobial treatments work equally well in different settings. True or False?

Select one

- a. True
- b. False

ANSWERS

1. a. Prophylactic treatment of simple corneal abrasions with chloramphenicol eye ointment
   b. Rapid referral from primary health care facilities to regional eye units
   c. Use of protective goggles in work situations where eyes might be injured
   d. Improved awareness of microbial keratitis among primary health workers
   e. Reliable availability of appropriate antibacterial and antifungal eye drops

2. False. A slit lamp is not necessary to make a diagnosis of microbial keratitis. Many signs can be detected using a torch (with or without a blue filter), a pair of magnifying loupes, and some fluorescein for corneal staining. A slit lamp certainly helps in the assessment of microbial keratitis; however, many of the signs can still be detected without one.

3. a, c, d and e

4. False. Antimicrobial treatments do not work equally well in different settings. Different organisms have different sensitivities to various antibiotics, and the effectiveness of treatment can vary depending on the setting and the type of infection.

Reflective learning

Visit www.cehjournal.org to complete the online ‘Time to reflect’ section.