

Research Subcommittee: Goals

- A. To consider whether there is sufficient evidence to define the basic mechanisms underlying dry eye disease?
 - 1. To summarize the state of knowledge about primary alterations and/or secondary responses of the following ocular and systemic components that contribute to tear film dysfunction.
 - a. Tear film
 - b. Lacrimal gland and accessory lacrimal glands
 - c. Ocular surface epithelia, cornea, conjunctiva
 - d. Meibomian gland
 - e. Lacrimal duct system
 - f. Immune system
 - 2. To construct an information matrix to identify areas where knowledge is insufficient and to determine if there are common pathologies across the syndrome.
 - 3. To identify areas where clinical information is available or lacking
- B. Based on data derived from Part A, to answer Question 2: Is the state of basic knowledge on mechanisms of dry eye sufficient to determine how these give rise to disease symptoms?
- C. Develop, if possible, definitions of the mechanism of dry eye pathology or develop major hypotheses on the mechanism that can be tested.