

## Symblepharon

Category(ies): Oculoplastics

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Symblepharon is the adhesion of the palpebral conjunctiva to the bulbar conjunctiva. It can be caused by some eye diseases (such as trachoma) or trauma to the eye.

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In operating on this lesion, the eye surgeon must be prepared to handle perforation of the cornea during the operation. (From William Charles Caccamise, Sr, MD)

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Symblepharon is adhesion of the conjunctiva of the lid to the conjunctiva of the eyeball-including the surface of the cornea. Perforation of an *ulcus serpens* led to this symblepharon. (From William Charles Caccamise, Sr, MD)

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Symblepharon caused by burn due to molten metal (From William Charles Caccamise, Sr, MD)

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Total symblepharon, both eyes (From William Charles Caccamise, Sr, MD)

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The cause of the total symblepharon in this patient, the history, was very vague. Possible causes: lye thrown in patient's eyes over a land dispute or spontaneous perforation of both corneas by *ulcus serpens*/hypopyon ulcer. In the latter scenario, the patient would have been supine, in a stuporous state with both eyes closed for several days. In that case, the lids would become attached to the cornea and bulbar conjunctiva of each eye.

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