

Introduction

Cornea is mostly composed of collagen and water and is enveloped by epithelium and endothelium. These layers cooperate to ensure tissue homeostasis by providing adequate corneal transparency and reliability. After injury, corneal epithelial cells regenerate and restore the physiologic tissue architecture. In addition, a concomitant nerve regrowth and a controlled neovascularization of the damaged surface may occur. Cellular loss needs replacement by cell growth and migration.

The mechanism driving the epithelialization involves a multiplicity of cells stimulated by serum growth factors (GFs), mostly contained in platelet-derived granules and issued by the same GFs into the blood during stress and tissue repair. The great quantity and accessibility of GFs and other signaling proteins in platelets with a consequent inhibition of cell apoptosis and improvement of cell proliferation, differentiation, and migration suggested the extensive use of platelet derivatives for clinical and surgical aims in regenerative medicine. Indeed, GFs, binding to tyrosine kinase or G protein-coupled receptor families, drive both the inflammatory process and the stroma remodeling through autocrine, juxtacrine, or, most commonly, paracrine means.

Thus, the transcription of critical proteins for cell cycle returning to prewounding levels after the tissue healing occurs [1].

Toward this context, the lacrimal film plays a critical role such as resource of GFs. Since the lack of tear epitheliotropic support promotes corneal opacity onset with consequent visual impairment. On the other hand, tear upregulation drives corneal epithelial hyperplasia, excessive deposition of extracellular matrix, and hypervascularization with cornea conjunctivalization. Here, we report the different concentrations of each GF in the human serum with respect to tears.

Failure of the corneal repair mechanisms leads to a chronic pathologic condition as persistent epithelial defects (PED) or dry eye

proportion of complete corneal epithelialization in only 4 days with low rate of adverse reactions.

Case reports have been described about the use of SE in other corneal diseases like ocular graft versus host disease, bullous keratopathy, fulminant bilateral *Haemophilus influenzae* keratitis, neurotrophic corneal ulcer, anterior tissue necrosis after porous orbital implant, and Mooren's ulcer. In all these cases, SE allowed a complete corneal healing with an effective improvement of the clinical conditions.

Despite many promising results, some recent studies have questioned the validity of this treatment. A prospective cross-sectional study on 34 patients did not find that SE could be effective in secondary Sjogren's syndrome due to elevated serum proinflammatory cytokine levels. In conclusion, they advocated the need of recognized measures to define subjective symptoms and to assess the real effect of SE therapy for DES. The use of SE was compared in randomized trials to unconventional biologic therapies [7], which have gained a growing anamniotic vthy6(mipubilad, 6(ans ll34einesim bironls tpntep

However, the technical preparation of human serum for ocular instillation should require a well-equipped laboratory with specialized trained personnel as well as the respect of aseptic and quality procedures. In addition, methods for SE production including the proper additive and GF doses should be optimized according to well-established guidelines and standardized quality controlled protocols. Additionally, informed consent should be obtained from each patient in case of allogenic somministration to avoid ethical and juridical implications owing to blood transfusion practices and legislative restrictions should be carefully respected to minimize the immunological and infectious risks [10].