

Keratoconus

Clue:

Down Syndrome

Higher predisposition to keratoconus

Studies have shown that the risk of keratoconus is at least 10 times greater in the Down syndrome population.¹

Patients who rub their eyes aggressively

You may observe that patients with Down syndrome who also have keratoconus frequently rub their eyes.

Objective tests

An autorefractor/keratometer and retinoscopy are quick and effective tools for uncovering keratoconus warning signs in patients who may be less likely to report changes in vision.

“Keratoconus must be ruled out in patients with Down syndrome. Due to the increased incidence coupled with an even worse keratoplasty prognosis in a patient with Down syndrome, this group of patients should have a yearly topography or tomography.”

—Dr Ibach, iDetective

Reference

1. Alio JL, Vega-Estrada A, Sanz P, et al. Corneal morphologic characteristics in patients with Down Syndrome. *JAMA Ophthalmol.* 2018;136(9):971-978.

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