

Hyperlacrimation (excessive tearing)

What is hyperlacrimation?

Hyperlacrimation (HI-per-LACK-ri-MAY-shun) is a medical term for too much tearing. It is also called excessive tearing or watering eye.

Tears are necessary for the normal lubrication of the eye and to wash away particles and foreign bodies. Excessive tear production or improper drainage of the tear duct results in hyperlacrimation.

What are some of the causes of hyperlacrimation?

- Dry eyes
- Clogged tear duct
- Eye infections
- Environmental irritants
- Some chemotherapies

When should I contact a healthcare professional?

- After prolonged tearing
- If tearing is accompanied by pain in the eye(s)
- If you have tenderness around the nose or sinuses
- When you experience redness in the eyes, or excess discharge

How will my doctor know if I have hyperlacrimation?

- Your doctor will take a medical history and examine your eyes. He or she may run some eye tests as well

What are some of the treatments for hyperlacrimation?

In patients receiving chemotherapy, excessive tearing is generally mild and manageable. Some treatments for excessive tearing include:

- Using artificial tears or ocular moisturizers
- Using warm compresses
- Surgery, in more severe cases (such as the placement of a lacrimal duct stent, to allow for continuation of therapy)

Name: _____

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Notes:

Talk to your doctor or nurse if your condition worsens. Let him or her know if you have increased pain or decreased vision.

The information contained herein is not comprehensive and is intended only as a guide.