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Ocular Surface

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The ocular surface is the interface between the functioning eye and our environment. This surface provides anatomic, physiologic, and immunologic protection and comprises the palpebral and bulbar conjunctival epithelium, the corneoscleral limbus, the corneal epithelium, and the tear film. The ocular surface contains a unique microbiome that is exposed to the environment and is involved in the maintenance of ocular surface health and defense from disease. The ocular surface functions to maintain optical clarity of the cornea, serves as a refractive surface for accurate projection of light through the ocular media, and provides protection of the structures of the eye against microbes, trauma, and toxins.