

The prevalence of *Demodex folliculorum* and *Demodex brevis* in patients with glaucoma

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Demodex spp. are parasitic mites occurring in sebaceous glands of the facial skin and in the hair follicles of eyelashes. *Demodex* spp. can cause various skin changes and blepharitis. The prevalence of infestation is higher in elderly people. It can reach even up to 100%.

Glaucoma is an age related disease. There are some evidence that antiglaucoma treatment of patients may influence the prevalence of eyelid infestation by *Demodex* spp. To confirm this hypothesis the group of 50 patients from the Clinic of General Ophthalmology in Lublin with diagnosed glaucoma was examined. Most of patients were undergoing antiglaucoma treatment. Four eyelashes of each patient were removed and analysed under the microscope. The majority of patients were infestated by *Demodex* spp.