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## An approach to the diagnosis and treatment of ophthalmic affections in camels (*Camelus dromedarius*)

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The camel depends much on the vision than on the sense of smell and being a desert wandering animal has to keep an all-round and distant vision. Camel browses the upper storey tree vegetations and the thorny vegetations from shrubs and bushes, which often inflict injuries to its eye. Besides injuries plant milk, plant juices, pollen grains, leaves etc. also cause irritation to the eyes. To alleviate irritation caused by plants or due to ectoparasites, the camel rubs its eyes and head violently with any object leading to self-inflicted injuries. Injuries may also occur while handling unmanageable camels during 'Rut' (breeding season). A blind camel is unfit for draft and transportation purposes and can only be used for breeding and milk purposes. In camels affections of eyelids, conjunctive, cornea orbit and adnexa have been reported. All these affections are manifested by various symptoms like blepharospasm, blepharitis, epiphora, chemosis etc. while in case of trauma and wound various degree of haemorrhage, pus or maggots are found. The diagnoses of most of these affections are made on the basis of clinical examinations. However, menace test, ophthalmoscope, Schirmer's tear test, Tonometry etc are also being used for the diagnosis of some of the affections. Majority of these surgical affections are either treated surgically or therapeutically or a combination of both. Common surgical procedures adopted while treating the surgical affections of eye in camel are done under sedation with Xylazine hydrochloride and/or nerve blocks.