

X

Xanthopsia

Xanthopsia is a visual disturbance characterized by excessive perception of yellow colors (literally “yellow vision”). It may be associated with use of various drugs including digoxin (especially if levels are toxic), thiazides (especially chlorothiazide), sulphonamides, and barbiturates. The mechanism is uncertain, but one possibility is that this is a partial form of achromatopsia, affecting one color more than others.

It has been suggested that the artist Vincent van Gogh (1853-1890) may have suffered from xanthopsia as a consequence of digitalis toxicity, accounting for the bright yellows in many of his later canvases.

References

Critchley M. Acquired anomalies of color perception of central origin. *Brain* 1965; **88**: 711-724

Cross References

Achromatopsia

Xerophthalmia, Xerostomia

Xerophthalmia, dryness of the eyes, and xerostomia, dryness of the mouth, due to impaired secretion from the lacrimal glands and the salivary glands respectively, often occur together. This may reflect autonomic dysfunction, as for example in Lambert Eaton myasthenic syndrome, or be due to autoimmune disorders, such as Sjögren's syndrome.

Cross References

Facilitation; Orthostatic hypotension