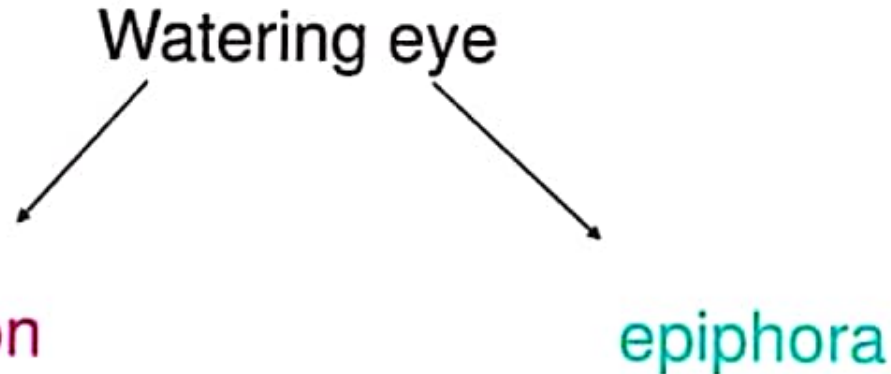


# Introduction

- Watery eye is an extremely common ocular symptom.



Failure to differentiate these two conditions can result in unwarranted and improper medication of a large number of patients.

# THE WATERING EYE

- **Lacrimation** is watering that occurs secondary to excessive tear production in the presence of a normal excretory system.
- **Epiphora** is watering that occurs secondary to abnormal excretory system in the presence of normal tear secretion.

# Causes of watering eye

## Lacrimation (hypersecretion):

- Secondary to ocular inflammation or surface disease.
- Emotional distress
- Irritation of the eyes ( smoke, dust, foreign bodies, injury)

# Causes of watering eye

**Epiphora:**(defective drainage): compromise of the lacrimal drainage system:

- a) malposition of the lacrimal puncta (e.g. ectropion)
- b) obstruction (anywhere along the lacrimal drainage system, from puncta to the nasolacrimal duct)
- c) lacrimal pump failure (lower lid laxity or weakness of the orbicularis muscle)

# Congenital obstruction

- Nasolacrimal duct obstruction
- Congenital dacryoceles