Thus, dryness, last felt from the electric cell, may be applied to any other part of the body. The sensation is perceived by the skin and, if intense, if caused by a cutaneous irritable phenomenon, is termed a cutaneous sensation. A similar phenomenon may be caused by a local irritant applied to the eye, which produces a sensation of heat, light, or pressure, depending on the nature of the irritant.

Symptoms.—The symptoms of dryness of the eye are described as burning, discomfort, foreign-body sensation, and lacrimation. The patient may complain of a feeling of dryness and irritation, and may be unable to focus on objects clearly. The symptoms may vary in intensity, and may occur in one or both eyes.

The causative agent of dry eye disease is unknown, although several factors have been implicated, including age, gender, environmental factors, and underlying eye diseases. Treatment options include artificial tears, lubricating drops, and, in some cases, referral for surgical treatment.

Sympathomimetic agents—such as epinephrine and phenylephrine—can be applied topically to the eye to reduce conjunctival hyperemia and relieve discomfort. These agents work by stimulating the parasympathetic nervous system, which causes the release of histamine and other inflammatory mediators. This results in vasoconstriction and decreased blood flow to the conjunctiva, leading to relief of symptoms.

Syncope.—Syncope, or transient loss of consciousness, is often caused by a drop in blood pressure. This can be due to a variety of factors, including vasovagal syncope, hypovolemic syncope, and neurocardiogenic syncope. Treatment options include lifestyle changes, medications, and, in some cases, implantation of a pacemaker.

Sycosis.—Sycosis, or a pustular dermatitis, is caused by the bacterial infection of the hair follicle. The condition can be acute or chronic, and is characterized by redness, swelling, and pus formation. Treatment options include oral antibiotics and topical antimicrobial agents.

Syphilis.—Syphilis, or the venereal disease, is caused by the spirochete Treponema pallidum. It can be transmitted through sexual contact or transfusion of infected blood. The disease has four stages: primary, secondary, tertiary, and latent. Treatment options include penicillin for primary, secondary, and early latent syphilis, and azithromycin or doxycycline for late latent syphilis.

Synergistic Action.—Synergistic action refers to the phenomenon where the effect of two or more drugs is greater than the sum of their individual effects when administered together. This can be due to an additive effect, where the drugs work on different targets, or to a potentiating effect, where one drug enhances the action of the other. Synergistic action is often used in the treatment of infections to improve efficacy.

Sympathomimetic—sympathomimetic drugs are those that mimic the effects of sympathetic nerve stimulation. They are used to treat conditions such as hypertension, hypotension, and glaucoma. Examples include epinephrine, norepinephrine, and isoproterenol.
REFERENCES HANDBOOK OF THE MEDICAL SCIENCES.

Synovitis, synovial

Synovitis is a condition where the synovium, a membrane that lines the joints and lubricates movement, becomes inflamed. It can be caused by a variety of factors including infection, injury, or autoimmune diseases. Symptoms of synovitis may include joint pain, swelling, redness, and stiffness. Treatment depends on the underlying cause and may involve medication, physical therapy, or surgery.