WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of determining a predisposition to symptomatic contact lens wear in a patient, said method comprising:
    a) determining a baseline concentration of interleukin-17A (IL-17A) in a non-stimulated tear sample of the patient;
    b) applying a contact lens to the patient for at least 2 hours to produce a stimulated tear sample in the patient;
    c) determining a concentration of IL-17A in the stimulated tear sample; and
    d) classifying the patient as being predisposed to symptomatic contact lens wear if the concentration of IL-17A in the stimulated tear sample is higher than the baseline concentration of IL-17A.

2. A method of determining a predisposition to asymptomatic contact lens wear in a patient, said method comprising:
    a) determining a baseline concentration of IL-17A in a non-stimulated tear sample of the patient;
    b) applying a contact lens to the patient for at least 2 hours to produce a stimulated tear sample in the patient;
    c) determining a concentration of IL-17A in the stimulated tear sample; and
    d) classifying the patient as predisposed to being an asymptomatic contact lens wearer if the concentration of IL-17A in the stimulated tear sample is less than 150% of the baseline concentration of IL-17A.

3. The method of claim 1 or claim 2, wherein IL-17A concentration is measured using an immunochromatographic assay.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the concentration of IL-17A in the stimulated tear sample is determined by contacting the stimulated tear sample with an antibody that specifically binds IL-17A, and detecting antibody that has bound to the IL-17A.

5. A kit for determining a predisposition for asymptomatic contact lens wear in a patient, said kit comprising an antibody that specifically binds to IL-17A, wherein a predisposition for asymptomatic contact lens wear is determined using the kit if the concentration of IL-17A in a stimulated tear sample of the patient is lower than the concentration of IL-17A in a non-stimulated tear sample of the patient, and further comprising a lateral flow chromatographic test strip comprising:

a) a first sample application zone for applying the non-stimulated tear sample;

b) a second sample application zone for applying the stimulated tear sample;

c) a first reagent zone in fluid communication with the first sample application zone,

d) a second reagent zone in fluid communication with the second sample application zone,

e) a first test zone in fluid communication with the first reagent zone, and

f) a second test zone in fluid communication with the second reagent zone,

wherein the first and second reagent zones each comprise an antibody conjugate comprising a detectable label conjugated to a first capture antibody that specifically binds IL-17A, the first and second test zones each comprise a second capture antibody that specifically binds IL-17A, and wherein a lower concentration of IL-17A in the stimulated tear sample of the patient is determined by a lower concentration of the detectable label in the second reagent

zone compared to the first reagent zone after application of the non-stimulated and stimulated tear samples to the first and second sample application zones, respectively.

6. The kit of claim 5, wherein the antibody that specifically binds IL-17A is a component of an immunochromatic assay.