was at the time of a significant loss. In six cases, this was connected with a death: the death of a spouse or a parent on whom the patient had been extremely dependent, or an anniversary of such a death, or on reaching the age at which that parent had died. In the remaining six cases the attack was connected with a different type of loss; for example, the redundancy of a lonely middle-aged man whose work had been his way of life.

A striking finding was that 11 of the 20 patients had, in infancy or childhood, suffered a severe loss. Four had lost one or both parents, all of whom had been killed in various types of sudden or violent accidents; three had lost one or more younger siblings; one, as a small child, had been brought up in an active war zone; and three had experienced prolonged or total separation from their parents in infancy or childhood. Ten patients had experienced both an early loss and a significant loss at the onset of blepharitis. The memory of the early loss and the memory of its expression (the painful crying and the sobbing) were often reactivated by the distress of the later loss. In most of the patients, we found varying degrees of difficulty in their grieving of painful losses.

We suggest that the failure of many cases of blepharitis to respond to medical treatment alone can probably be partly explained by the presence of a symptom of unresolved grieving.

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Acknowledgments

Dr Brook wishes to thank the British Psychoanalytical Society for having supported his work on this study, and Dr Zalidis's partners at the Well Street Surgery in Hackney, where this work took place.

Corrections:
Apologies are due to Dr Richard Baker whose name was omitted from the letter submitted by himself and his colleagues, M Lakhani, T Stokes, and K Khunti, and published in the November issue of the *Journal,* p 749. There was also a mistake in the email address for Dr Marek Koperski who wrote one of the editorials also published in the November Journal. His email address should have read: kopersk@itsa.ucsf.edu