

Eye Injury: Foreign body



Eye Clinic

You have been given this leaflet after attending our Emergency Department with a foreign body in your eye(s). A foreign body is an object that has attached to or entered the eye after an incident or accident.

This is usually a minor injury and your discomfort, sensitivity to bright light and blurred vision should resolve in the next 48 to 72 hours.

Where possible your Emergency Department nurse or doctor has already removed the foreign body from your eye.

In some circumstances a follow up appointment in the eye clinic may be required. If this is the case then your Emergency Department nurse or doctor will have informed you. It is important that you attend this appointment.

What should I do now?

We strongly discourage the use of eye pads or patches after this type of injury. They can increase your risk of developing an infection. It is best to leave the eye uncovered and continue to use your eye drops or ointment regularly

You will have been prescribed antibiotic eye drops or ointment. This is to treat any infection that may have been caused by the injury and also protects against infection developing in the next few days.

Please ensure that you use these regularly and continue them for as many days as prescribed:

Chloramphenicol	1 drop to affected eye(s)	Four times per day
Chloramphenicol ointment	1 cm to affected eye(s)	Four times per day
Fucithalmic (Fusidic Acid)	1 cm to affected eye(s)	Twice daily

What do I need to look out for?

Eye discomfort or pain may worsen in the first 12 hours after anaesthetic eye drops have worn off. However, it should then improve steadily over 48-72 hours.

Contact details

Emergency Department:

01483 571122 extension 4215 (24 hours)

Eye Clinic:

01483 571122 extension 4648

(08:15 -17:00 Monday-Friday)

On Call Eye Doctor

01483 571122 and ask switchboard

(you will be required to try the Emergency Department and the Eye Clinic first)

PALS and Advocacy contact details

Contact details of independent advocacy services can be provided by our Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) who are located on the right hand side as you enter the main reception area. PALS are also your first point of contact for health related issues, questions or concerns surrounding RSCH patient services.

Telephone: 01483 402757

Email: rsc-tr.pals@nhs.net

Opening hours: 9.00am–4.00pm, Monday to Friday

If you would like information documents in large print, on tape or in another language or form please contact PALS.

Past review date: N/A Month Year

Future review date: May 2019

Author: Dan Lindfield

PIN160304–1036

