

EYE INJURIES



Managing eye injuries

WARNING

DO NOT touch the eye or any contact lens.

DO NOT allow patient to rub eye.

DO NOT try to remove any object which is penetrating the eye.

DO NOT apply pressure when bandaging the eye.

Burns

1. Open eyelid gently and wash eye with cold flowing water for 20 mins.
2. Place eye pad or light clean dressing over the injured eye only.
3. Ensure ambulance has been called—**triple zero (000)**.

Wounds

1. Lie patient on back.
2. Place light dressing over injured eye only.
3. Ask patient to try not to move eye.
4. Ensure ambulance has been called—**triple zero (000)**.

Small object

1. Ask patient to look up.
2. Draw lower eyelid down. If object visible, remove with corner of moist cloth.
3. If not visible, pull upper lid down.
4. If unsuccessful, wash eye with sterile saline or clean water.
5. If still unsuccessful, cover injured eye only and seek medical aid.

Penetrating

1. Place thick pads above and below injured eye or cover object with paper cup.
2. Bandage pads in place making sure there is no pressure on eyelids.
3. Cover injured eye only.
4. Ensure ambulance has been called—**triple zero (000)**.

Embedded object

1. Cover the injured eye only.
2. Seek medical aid.

Smoke

1. Wash eyes with sterile saline or cold tap water.
2. Seek medical aid if necessary.

In an emergency, call triple zero (000) for an ambulance

For more information on St John first aid training and kits, visit www.stjohn.org.au or freecall 1300 360 455