

The eye is very susceptible to infection. Always wash hands thoroughly or use sterile gloves when treating eye injuries.

- If the casualty is wearing contact lenses, have the casualty remove them.
- To prevent movement and further damage to the injured eye, both eyes need to be covered. Explain to the casualty why and what you are doing.
- Reassure the casualty.

## Foreign Bodies – Minor:

### Causes

- Eyelashes
- Cosmetics
- Glass
- Insects
- Grit or dirt
- Metal

### Treatment

Follow the Basic First Aid Plan to assess the casualty

- ✓ Stand behind casualty and tilt their head back.
- ✓ Ask the casualty to look left, right, up and down.
- ✓ Remove any foreign object only if on the white of the eye.
- ✓ Place the upper lid over the lower lid of the eye.
- ✓ Use sterile water to wash out the eye.



## Foreign Bodies – Major:

### Treatment:

Follow the Basic First Aid Plan to assess the casualty.

- ✓ Lay the casualty on their back with their shoulders raised.
- ✓ Ensure the casualty avoids eye movement by covering the eye making sure there is no contact with the eye's surface.
- ✓ Use a ring pad over the eye and bandage in place to prevent the foreign body or the eye from moving.
- ✓ Always cover both eyes to prevent eye movement.
- ✗ **DO NOT** remove an object on the coloured part of the eye.
- ✗ **DO NOT** remove an embedded object from the eye.
- ✗ **DO NOT** rub the eyes.



## Burns to the eye:

### Treatment:

Follow the Basic First Aid Plan to assess the casualty.

- ✓ Gently open the eyelids and wash the eyes with cold running water for twenty minutes.
- ✓ Place eye pads over both eyes and bandage in place.
- ✓ Seek medical attention.
- ✗ **DO NOT** rub the eyes.



If an Ambulance is required - call immediately - do not delay