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CORNEAL ABRASIONS

The cornea is a thin clean layer of tissue covering the pupil and the iris (the colored part of the eye). A corneal abrasion is a scratch to the cornea that happens when a foreign object hits the eye or is trapped under the eyelid and then the eye is rubbed.

If your child has a corneal abrasion, he may complain of one or more symptoms:

Eye pain	Excessive tears
Eye redness	A sensation of a foreign body
Refusal to open the eye	

What is the treatment for a corneal abrasion?

The eye may need to be irrigated (washed out) if there is concern that a foreign body or particle, such as sand or dirt, is trapped.

An abrasion is usually easily identified after your doctor puts some eye drops in the eye and examines it with a special light.

Antibiotic eye drops or ointment may be placed in the eye, and a prescription given for you to apply this at home.

Usually, the eye is not patched unless there is concern that your child may frequently try to rub the eye.

A majority of abrasions heal fully within 1-2 days. Your doctor may have you return to re-examine the eye, or if the scratch is still present in a couple days, may have you follow up with an eye specialist.

Call our office if:

Your child seems to be having worsening pain

Pus is draining from your child's eye

Your child complains of worsening blurry vision

There is significant swelling around your child's eye / eyelids.

Your child's symptoms return after you have completed treatment.

For any urgent or emergent medical concerns, please call 911 or go immediately to the nearest emergency department.

