

Eye Injuries (Adult and Pediatric)

CFR and All Provider Levels

1. ABCs and vital signs
2. Airway management and appropriate oxygen therapy
3. Do not apply pressure to the globe of the eye
4. Loosely bandage both eyes
5. For non-penetrating foreign object/chemical eye injuries, immediately and continuously flush the affected eye(s) with Normal Saline for a minimum of 20 minutes
6. For impaled objects to the eye, stabilize the object with bulky dressings and cover both eyes to prevent consensual eye movement
7. For an avulsed eye:
 - Do not attempt to replace the eye into the socket
 - Cover the eye with saline-moistened, sterile dressings
 - Stabilize dressings with a paper cup or similar object

CFR STOP

EMT

8. Assist the patient with removal of contact lenses as needed
9. Transport

EMT STOP

Paramedic

10. For chemical eye injuries, administer one of the following medications to assist with irrigation as needed:
 - OPTION A: Proparacaine 0.5% 1-2 gtts topically in affected eye(s). Repeat as needed
 - OPTION B: Tetracaine 0.5% 1-2 gtts topically in affected eye(s). Repeat as needed

Paramedic STOP

Medical Control Options

Key Points / Considerations