

Eye Infection (Pink Eye or Conjunctivitis)

Conjunctivitis or "Pink Eye" is an infection or irritation of the white part of the eye.

Signs of an eye infection are:

- Yellow/green drainage from the eye
- Redness of the white part of the eye
- Eyelids stuck together with pus, often after sleeping
- Watery drainage from the eye

Things to do at home:

- Keep your child's eyes clean. Wash your hands. Frequently, clean the eyes with warm water and a clean washcloth or cotton ball. Wipe from the inside of the eye by the nose to the outside. Use a clean washcloth or cotton ball each time you clean your child's eyes.
- Eye infections are very contagious. Wash your hands before and immediately after cleaning your child's eyes or anytime you touch your child's eyes or drainage from the eyes.
- Try to keep your child from rubbing his eyes. Encourage him to wash his hands often.
- Your doctor wants your child to have _____ (medication and amount) _____ times each day for _____ days.
- Be sure to give your child this medication as instructed, even if his eyes look better.
- Your child should sleep by himself while taking the medication for this infection.
- Wash your child's bed linen, towels, and washcloths in hot water often until he finishes the medication.

Call your doctor or the Children's Mercy Hospital Information Line at (816) 234-3188 if:

- Your child's eyelids become red or swollen.
- Your child develops a fever greater than 101° F (38.3° C).
- Your child is not better in 3 days (after starting the medication).
- Your child complains of an ear ache.
- Your child begins acting sicker.

Your child may return to school or day care on ____/____/____.