

Eye injury

A broad term used to describe a physical or chemical wound to the eye or eye socket.

Common

More than 200,000 US cases per year

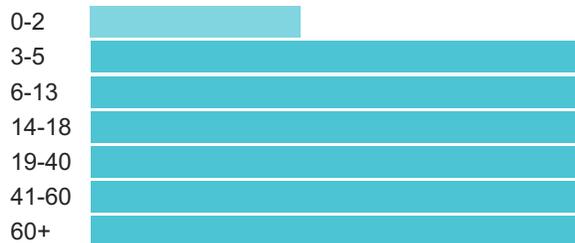
-  Treatable by a medical professional
-  Usually self-diagnosable
-  Lab tests or imaging rarely required
-  Short-term: resolves within days to weeks

Most commonly, this occurs when something scratches the eye. Exposure of the eye to toxic chemicals or major trauma can cause more severe eye injury.

Symptoms vary depending on the type of injury, but may include eye pain, eye redness, or discomfort when moving the eye.

Treatment varies based on the severity and type of injury. Most cases should be evaluated by a doctor. Chemical injuries require immediate attention.

Ages affected



Symptoms

Usually self-diagnosable

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People may experience:

Pain areas: in the eyes

Visual: vision disorder or vision loss

Eyes: dilated pupil or redness

Also common: black eye, bleeding, or swelling

Treatments

Treatment varies

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Medical procedure

Removal of foreign body: Reduces risk of infection or longterm damage.

Self-care

Eye flushing: Rinsing the eye with sterile water to remove any foreign objects.

Devices

Eyepatch: A covering used to protect the eye from injury.

Specialists

Ophthalmologist: Specializes in eye diseases.

Primary care provider (PCP): Prevents, diagnoses, and treats diseases.

Emergency medicine doctor: Treats patients in the emergency department.

Critical: consult a doctor for medical advice

Note: The information you see describes what usually happens with a medical condition, but doesn't apply to everyone. This information isn't medical advice, so make sure to contact a healthcare provider if you have a medical problem. If you think you may have a medical emergency, call your doctor or a emergency number immediately.

Sources: Mayo Clinic and others. [Learn more](#)