

## Further Information

## Contact Details

If you have any questions please telephone the RUH Emergency Department on

**01225 824000 (day)**  
**01225 825015 (night)**

Royal United Hospitals Bath  
NHS Foundation Trust  
Combe Park, Bath BA1 3NG  
01225 428331 [www.ruh.nhs.uk](http://www.ruh.nhs.uk)

Please contact the Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) if you require this leaflet in a different format, or would like to feedback your experience of the hospital.

Email [ruh-tr.PatientAdviceandLiaisonService@nhs.net](mailto:ruh-tr.PatientAdviceandLiaisonService@nhs.net)  
or telephone 01225 825656.

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## Abrasion of the Eye



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You have sustained an abrasion, which is like a scratch, to the outer surface of your eye. This may have happened by something going into your eye (e.g. a finger) or by a piece of foreign material (FB = Foreign Body) going into the eye.

The doctor or nurse may have had to remove the FB (e.g. metal or wood) from the front of your eye which is likely to leave an abrasion.

Abrasions can be quite painful, cause the eye to water and make the white part of the eye look red due to infection and inflammation. Vision may also be affected if the abrasions is over the pupil of your eye.

Most abrasions are treated with antibiotic drops or cream. These may be used for up to 5 days and occasionally longer. It is important that you follow the treatment and instructions given to you by the doctor or nurse and that you return for reviews as requested.

Although most of these injuries heal up completely, there are several things to bear in mind:

1. Although your eye may be comfortable on your leaving the hospital, it may become uncomfortable again in about 30-minutes, when the anaesthetic drops wear off. Use the treatment prescribed for you.
2. Normally your eye should heal up and become comfortable again in about 48-hours. It is not generally necessary to see you again, but you should return after this time if your eye seems to be getting increasingly red or sore or your vision more blurred.
3. If you experience discomfort, painkillers such as paracetamol or ibuprofen may help.
4. Do not rub your eye, apply pressure to it or wear contact lenses until it has healed, to prevent further damage.
5. To prevent further FBs going into your eye, protect your eyes with some form of goggles. This is essential when hammering or grinding, etc.

