

Patient advice and liaison service (PALS)

If you have a compliment, complaint or concern please contact our PALS team on 020 7288 5551 or whh-tr.whitthealthPALS@nhs.net

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Corneal Abrasion

A patient's guide



Corneal Abrasion

What is corneal abrasion?

This is where a tiny piece of skin is scratched off the front of the eye (the cornea). This causes intense pain with a feeling that something is in your eye.

How can it be treated?

Unfortunately, we just have to wait for the scratch to heal over with new skin. This normally takes 24 hours, but in the case of very large abrasions it can take longer.

We can make the eye more comfortable while it is healing by putting some cream and a pad on it, although this means you will not be able to drive home.

When do I need to be seen again?

The doctor or nurse will advise you if and when you should return to the Emergency Department.

You should:

- Follow any advice the doctor/nurse has given you.
- Return to hospital if your eye becomes more painful, red or your vision becomes increasingly blurred.

You should not:

- Rub your eye as this will make it very painful.

Further Advice and Instructions
