### Pearls
- Suspect an eye injury if any significant facial trauma.
- Normal Saline is the preferred solution for irrigation, but sterile water may be used if Normal Saline is not immediately available.
- If globe rupture is suspected (high velocity mechanism, impaled object, irregular pupil, significantly decreased vision in the acute setting), the eye should be protected from environment and NO irrigation should be administered.
- Do not remove impaled objects. Protect them from movement with a protective dressing (eye cup) and cover BOTH eyes to reduce eye movement. Explain to patient that the injured eye moves with the other eye and movement can worsen injury.
- Protect the patient from further eye injury/increases in intraocular pressure by elevating the head of the gurney, keeping the patient’s face upward, consider Ondansetron for nausea.

### History
- Age
- Past medical history
- Trauma or exposure to chemicals
- Time of injury
- Onset of symptoms
- Previous eye surgery

### Signs and Symptoms
- Decreased or blurred vision
- Floaters/flashes/curtain coming down
- Onset moving from dark to bright
- Avulsion
- Orbital edema or contusion
- Deformed pupil
- Burning/pain to eye(s)
- Red eye/sclera
- Nausea or vomiting
- Pain with extraocular movement

### Differential
- Multi-system trauma
- Head trauma
- Orbital cellulitis
- Burn (e.g., chemical, thermal)
- Corneal abrasion
- Conjunctivitis
- Parasite

### Diagram Interpretation

**Temporary, complete vision loss?**

- If suspected chemical burn, immediately and continuously irrigate with Normal Saline for 15 minutes
- If impaled object, foreign body, or globe rupture suspected, do not irrigate. Do not remove impaled object.
- Cover eye with a loose, protective dressing (eye cup), putting no pressure on the globe. Cover BOTH eyes if practical to reduce eye movement
- If possible, keep the patient’s face upward and head of bed elevated greater than 30°
- Consider, IV
- Consider, Ondansetron
  - For pain
  - consider, Fentanyl
- Notify receiving facility.
- Consider Base Hospital for medical direction

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**Stroke**