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## CONJUNCTIVITIS



### **Q What is conjunctivitis?**

Any inflammation of the outermost transparent part of the eye, called conjunctiva is known as “conjunctivitis “in medical terminology.

### **Q.What are the causes of conjunctivitis?**

Infection is most common-could be viral or bacterial. Then allergic causes are also very important. Less frequently, irritating chemicals, mild burns, heat etc can also lead to conjunctivitis.

### **Q. Is “eye flu “synonymous with conjunctivitis?**

Yes, but only if it is of infectious nature.

### **Q. What are the symptoms of conjunctivitis?**

Red eyes, foreign body sensation, itching burning sensation watering and thick pus like discharge are the important symptoms of conjunctivitis.

### **Q. Is it contagious?**

Yes infectious conjunctivitis is extremely contagious and the family members and contact persons need to take utmost precautions not to catch it.

### **Q. What are the precautions?**

Not to shake hands, to sleep in different beds, to isolate the clothing for washing, not sharing clothes, avoiding the wash hands frequently and avoid close contact as far as possible with the involved person.

### **Q. What is the treatment of conjunctivitis?**

Depends on the cause, if the cause is infectious, antibiotic drop instillation is the treatment. If the cause is allergic then mild astringent eye drops or mild steroid eye drops are to be instilled in the eye. Keeping good eye hygiene is also very important.

### **Q. What are the complications of conjunctivitis?**

Most of the times it heals of it's own within a week, but sometimes it may lead to persistent red eyes for few weeks, because of the bleeding it causes on the outer layer of the eye or even blur your vision when it involves the seeing part of the eye called cornea. This is more seen in viral conjunctivitis.