

Eye Irrigation (≥ PL1)

Clinical Indications:

1. Irrigation of eye after chemical exposure/burn.
2. Assist with removal of foreign material from eye.

Contraindications:

1. Impaled object in eye.
2. Trauma to globe of eye.

Notes/Precautions:

1. Care should be taken that the patient does not rub eyes as additional damage can occur.

Procedure:

1. Remove contact lenses, if present
2. Use isotonic crystalloid alone, or ≥ PL3 may mix 100 mg Lidocaine 5 mL of a 2% solution in 1 L of isotonic crystalloid
3. Initiate irrigation and direct the top of the IV tubing at the medical canthus (corner of the eye nearest to the nose) and allow to flow laterally. Do not allow irrigation to come in contact with the unaffected eye.
4. Continue irrigation throughout transport. All patients should receive transport to the ED to evaluate for corneal injury.