# Eyes in the A&E

Mr Colin Dibble Consultant in Emergency Medicine North Manchester General Hospital



# Eyes in the A&E

Mr Colin Dibble Consultant in Emergency Medicine North Manchester General Hospital

#### Contents

- Anatomy
- The Eye Examination
- Foreign Bodies
- Chemical exposure
- Corneal abrasions
- Approach to 'Red Eye'

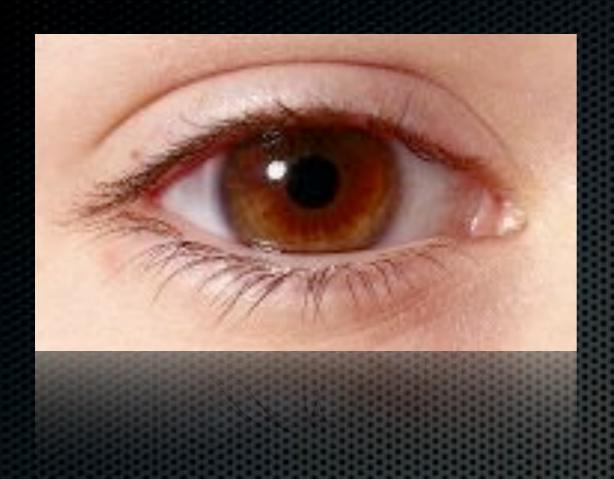
- Conjunctivitis
- Iritis
- Glaucoma
- Corneal Ulcers
- Eye & lid trauma
- Sudden visual loss/ floaters

#### Contents

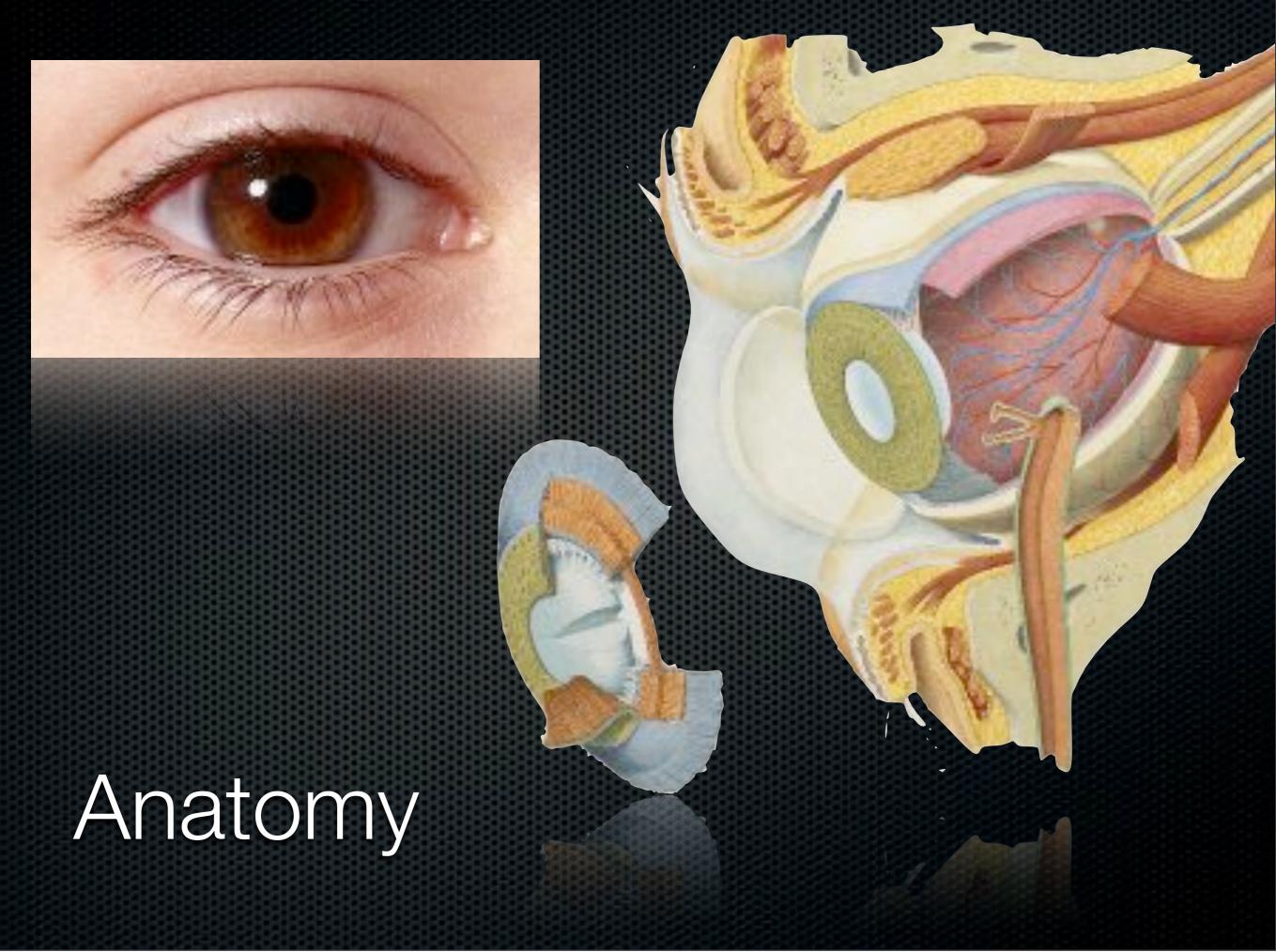
- Anatomy
- The Eye Examination
- Foreign Bodies
- Chemical exposure
- Corneal abrasions
- Approach to 'Red Eye'

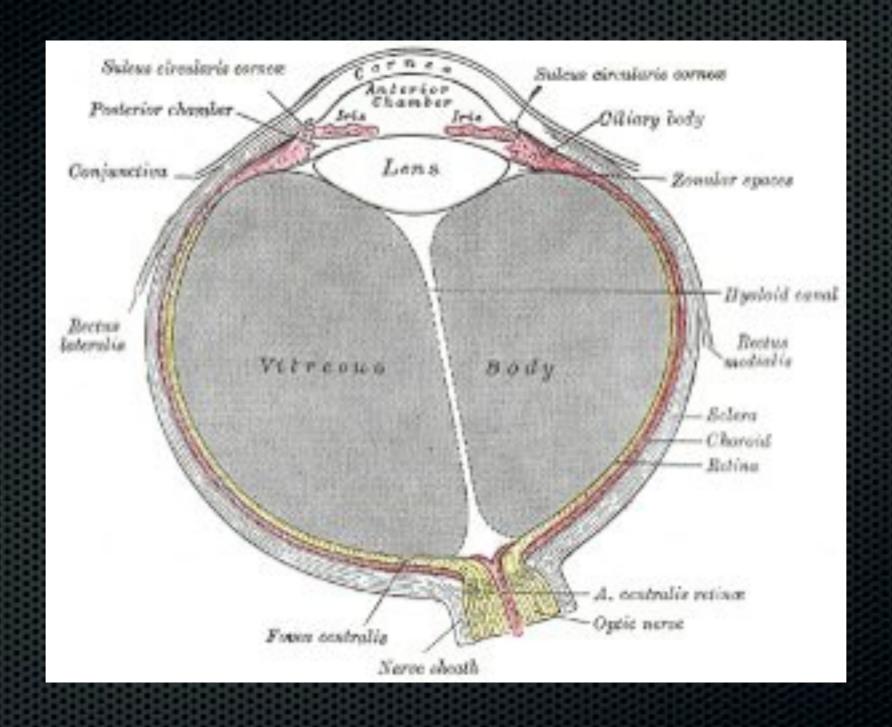


- Iritis
- Glaucoma
- Corneal Ulcers
- Eye & lid trauma
- Sudden visual loss/ floaters



# Anatomy





#### The Eye Examination

#### Visual Acuity

- Always do it all, left & right individually
- ALWAYS document visual acuity:

  Snellen chart=distance from chart/line read +/- letters not seen eg 6/9+2 is at 6 metres, reads all row '9' plus 2 from row '6'. If can't see '36' move closer 6, 5, 4, 1/36
- With glasses or pinhole card (corrects refractive errors)



### The Eye Examination

- Examine lids; lacerations/ blepahritis dandruff/ptosis/ cellulitis/proptosis/lashes/stye
- Inside Lids; under lower, & evert upper eyelid with cotton bud
- Conjunctiva; chemosis, injection- general? Perilimbic? Pus?
- Cornea: Clear? Cloudy? FB? Ulcers?

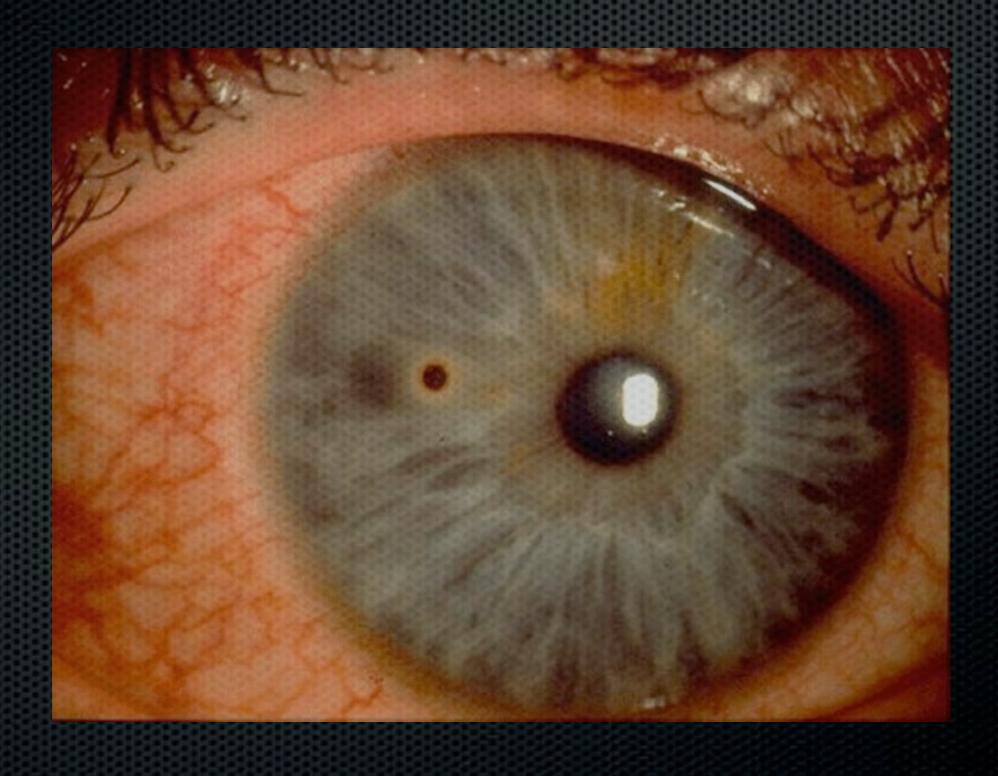
- Anterior chamber: shallow? Blood (hyphaema)? Pus (hypopyon)?
- Pupil: shape, tethering reactivity, L=R
- Fundoscopy
- Slit lamp
- Flourescein & blue light for abrasions

### Foreign bodies

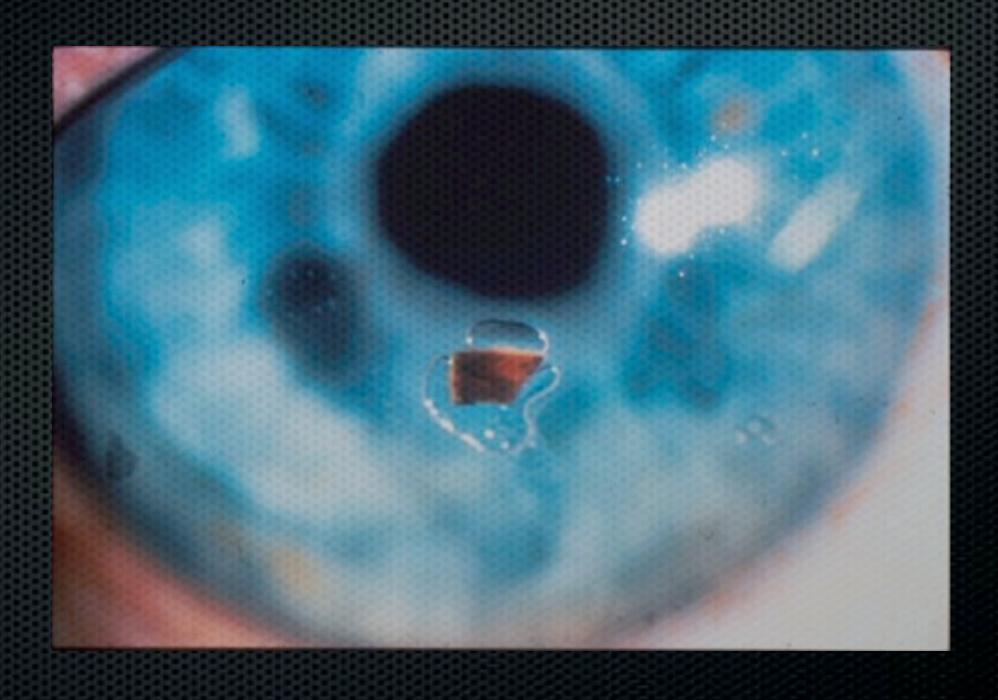
- Full eye exam
- Remove under local (tetracaine, oxybuprocaine), direct vision and moist cotton bud or blue needle on 2ml syringe
- Beware under eyelid

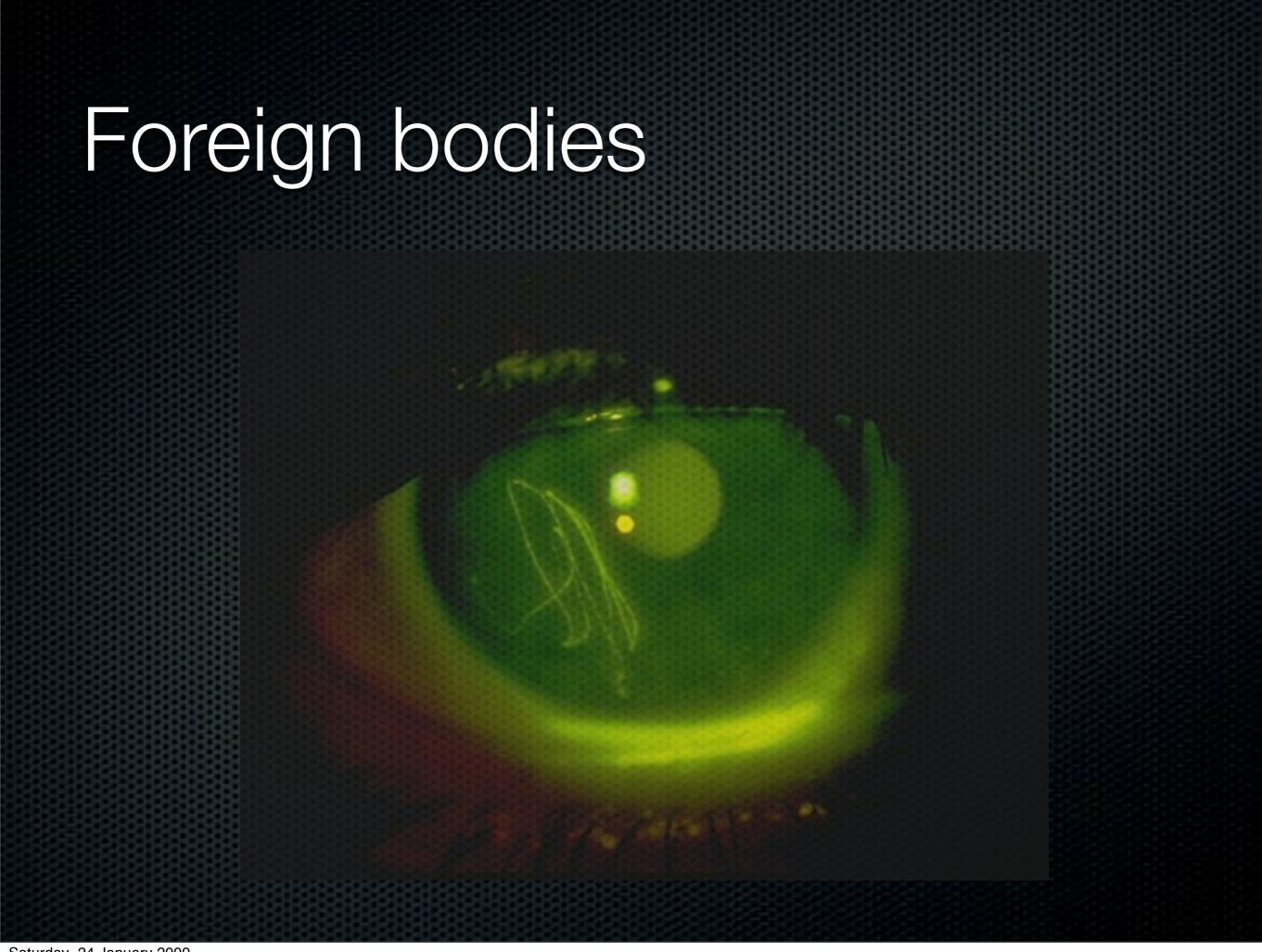
- Always x-ray if grinding/ hammering to r/o penetration
- Topical chloramphenical afterwards, advice to drive with window closed
- Rust ring refer eye clinic/ if very tiny FB

# Foreign bodies



# Foreign bodies



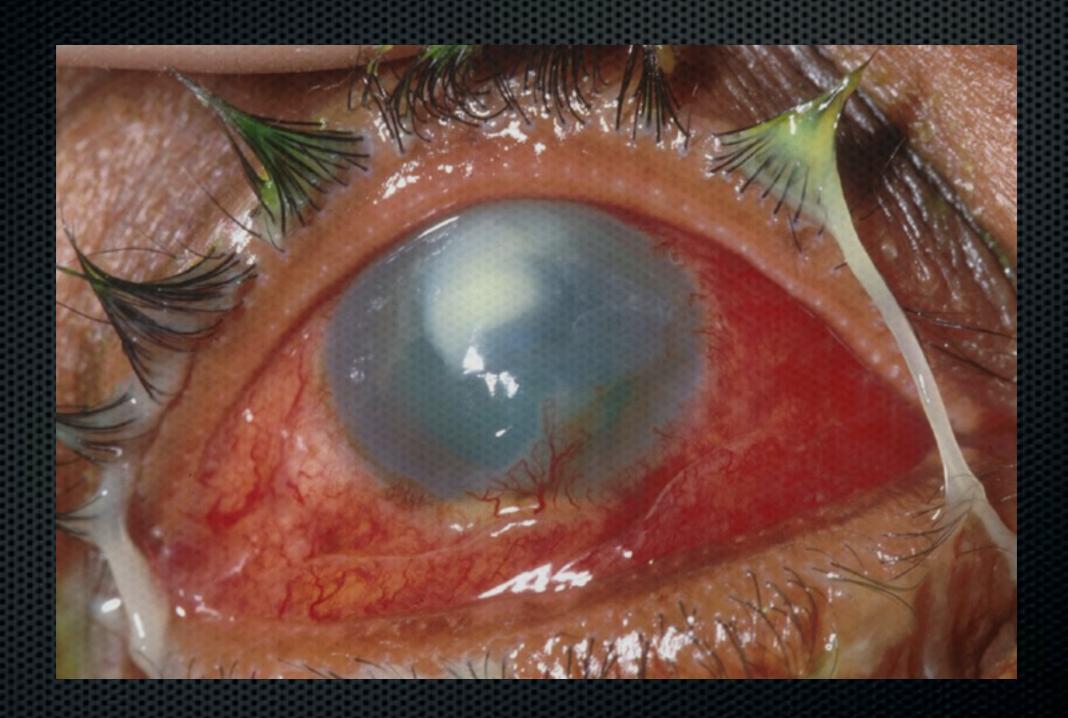


- Alkali (cement/lime) worse than acid etc
- Washout with ++ litres of saline until pH neutral (check with paper under lower eyelid)
- Full eye exam
- Refer ALL with any corneal abnormalities on flourescein

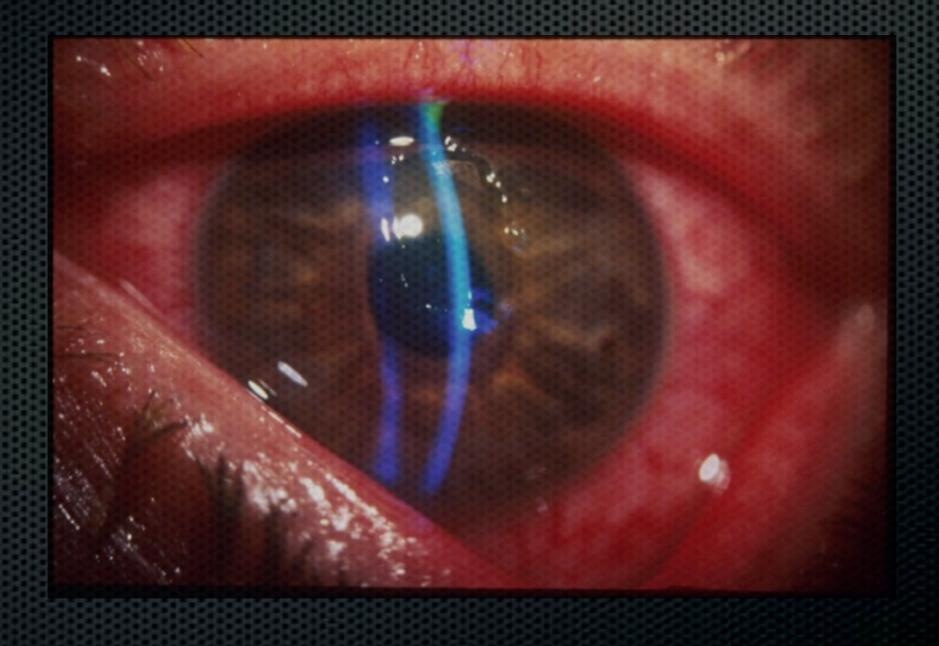


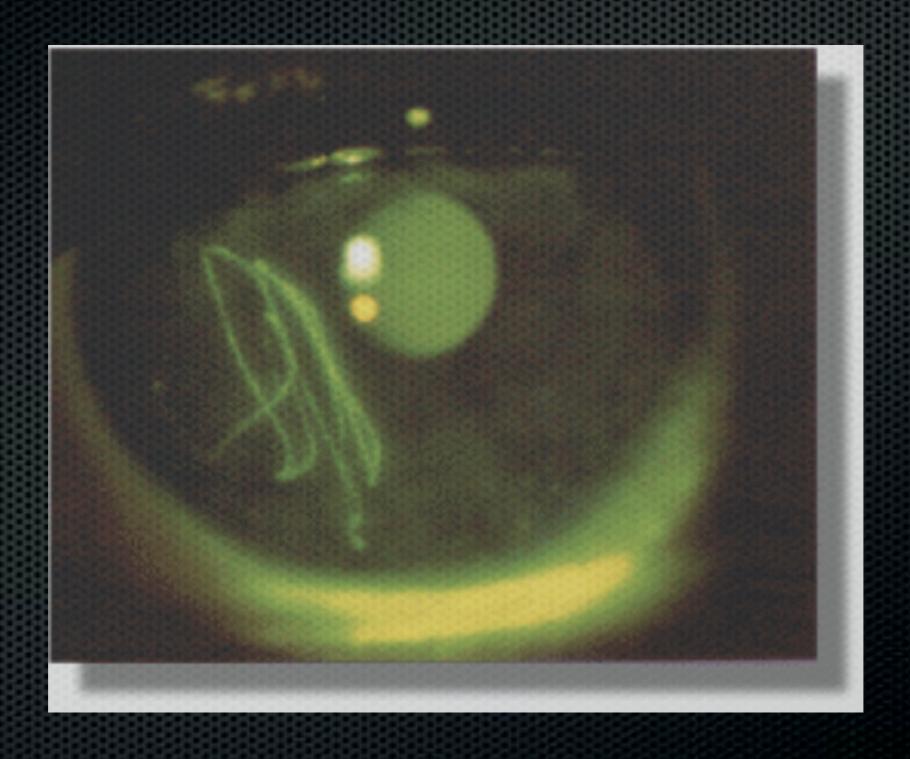


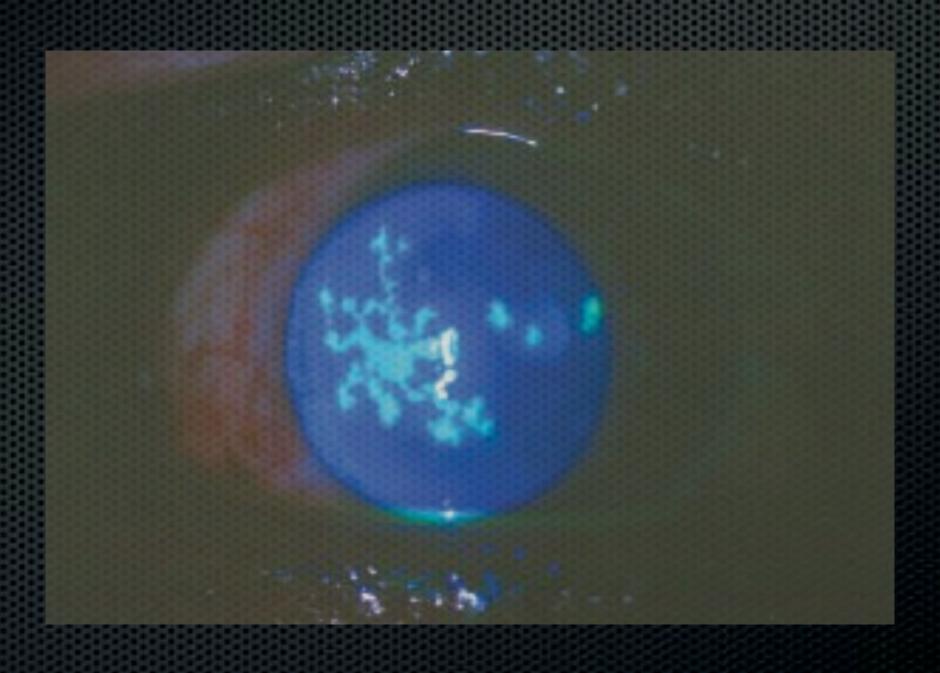


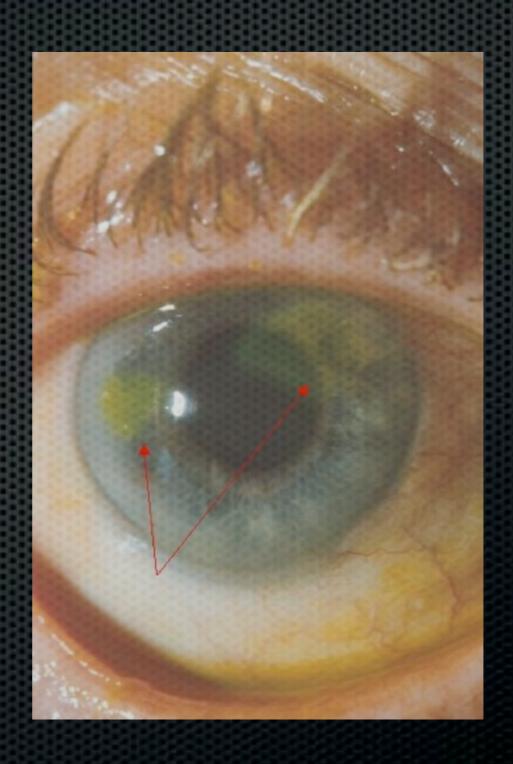


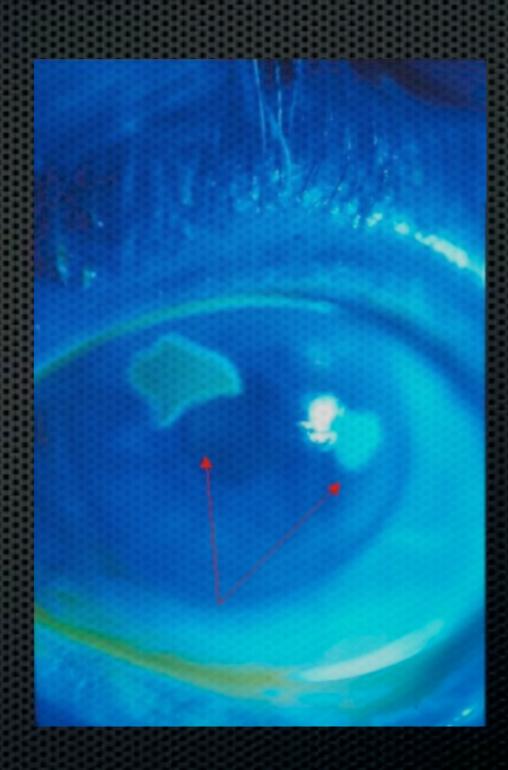
- Very common, very painful with blepharospasm, tearing and general conjunctival injection
- The thin cornea scratched e.g. By fingernail
- Topical local needed before examination
- May see irregularity on cornea with direct vision
- Obvious with blue light and flourescein
- Waterfall sign with perforation











### The Red Eye: an approach

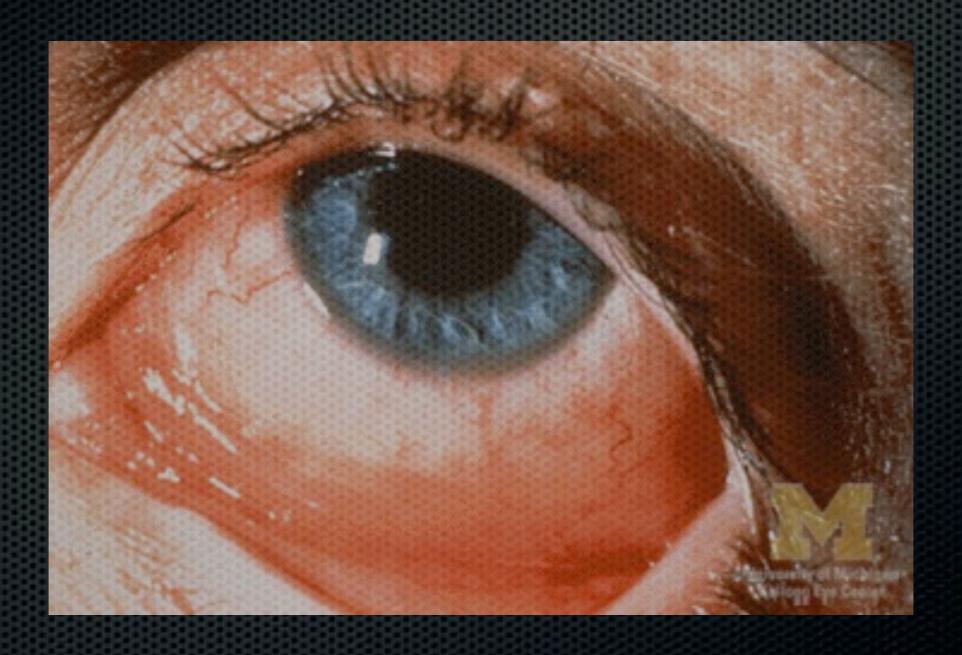
| Detail  |                      | Likely causes  |
|---------|----------------------|--|
| History | Trauma or FB         | Corneal abrasion, eye perforation, FB  |
|         | Pain                 | acute narrow angle glaucoma, scleritis, uveitis, en-<br>dophtalmos, abrasion, ulcer (bacteria, fungi, viruses,<br>exposure-VII palsy, autoimmune-RhA, neurotrophic)                            |
|         | Blurred vision       | Mostly abrasions or most more severe eye disease   |
|         | Photophobia          | Abrasion, iritis   |
|         | Haloes               | Glaucoma   |
|         | Itch                 | allergic conjunctivitis, blepharitis   |
|         | Clear discharge      | abrasion, FB, allergic & viral conjunctivitis  |
|         | Pus discharge        | bacterial conjunctivitis (both eyes) or corneal ulcer (one eye)  |
|         | Previous eye disease | iritis, marginal keratitis, dendritic ulcer, endophthalmi-<br>tis post eye surgery   |
|         | Both eyes            | allergic & viral conjunctivitis  |
|         | Contact lens use     | bacterial corneal infections   |
|         | Other illness        | anterior uveitis secondary to eg ulcerative colitis/<br>Crohns/Ank Spond. Urethral discharge with Reiters<br>syndrome, gonorrhoea, Chlamydia. Previous viral<br>URTI with viral conjunctivitis |
|         | Drug history         | drug reaction  |

### The Red Eye: an approach

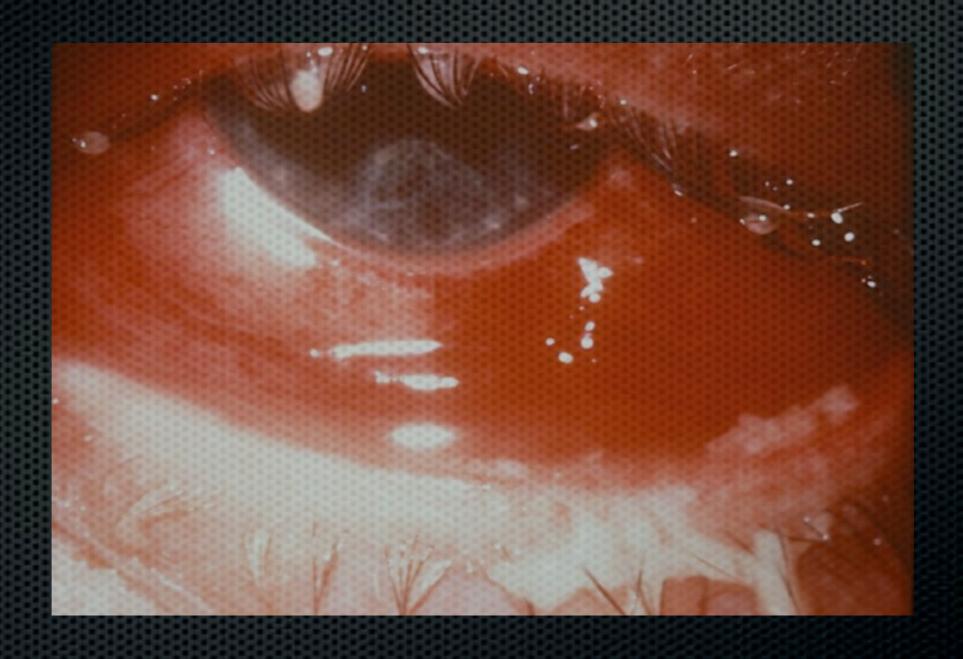
|      | Detail   | Likely causes   |
|------|--|---|
| Exam | Both eyes involved   | allergic, viral and bacterial   |
|      | Discharge seen as above                                    |   |
|      | Cornea clear   | allergic & viral conjunctivitis, iritis,  |
|      | Cornea cloudy  | spot-ulcer, general-glaucoma  |
|      | Anterior chamber   | shallow in narrow angle glaucoma, pus (hypopyon)<br>cells, and flare (visible light beam) in iritis/scleritis,<br>blood (hyphaemia)penetrating/blunt trauma |
|      | Conjunctiva-general<br>injection                           | allergic, viral & bacterial conjunctivitis, corneal abra-<br>sion, ulcer and FB   |
|      | Conjuntiva sectoral in-<br>jection                         | Episcleritis (superficial blood vessels), Sceritis (deep immoveable blood vessels and risk of perforation)  |
|      | Conjunctiva-ciliary in-<br>jection (ring around<br>cornea) | iritis, acute glaucoma.   |
|      | Sub-conjunctival blood                                     | mostly insignificant no specific treatment required. If<br>recurrent=hypertension/bleeding diathesis  |
|      | Pupil mishappen and<br>unreactive                          | iritis, acute narrow angle glaucoma,  |
|      | Evert eyelids  | FB's, cobblestone-allergic/bacterial conjunctivitis, grey rice-grains=viral conjunctivitis  |
|      | Fluorescein  | abrasions, ulcers, dendritic, widespread with contact<br>lens/alkali burns  |
|      | Abnormal vitrous/retina<br>on slit lamp                    | Posterior uveitis/endopthalmitis  |
|      | Intraocular pressure                                       | normal <21mmHg, >40mmHg=glaucoma  |

- Usually bilateral
- Viral; watery, can be puslike
- Allergic; watery,
   chemosis cobblestone
   under lids
- Bacterial; pus like
- Chlamydia/Gonoccal
- Scratchy feeling, no pain

- Normal VA
- Usually give chloramphenicol
- May need drops for allergic conjunctivits-eg sodium chromoglycate, anti-inflammatories
- Usually no need for follow up

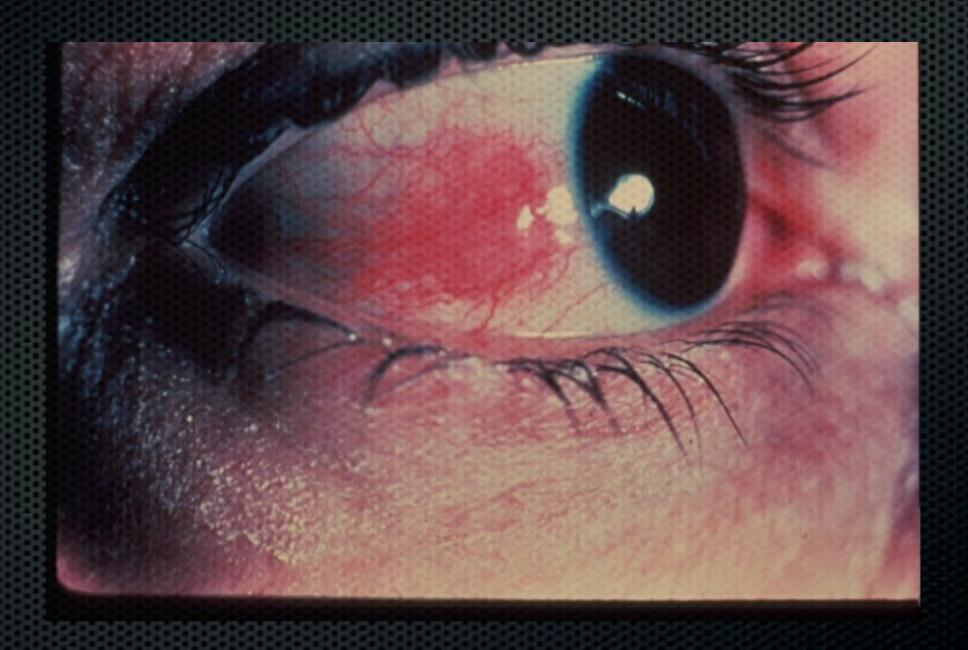


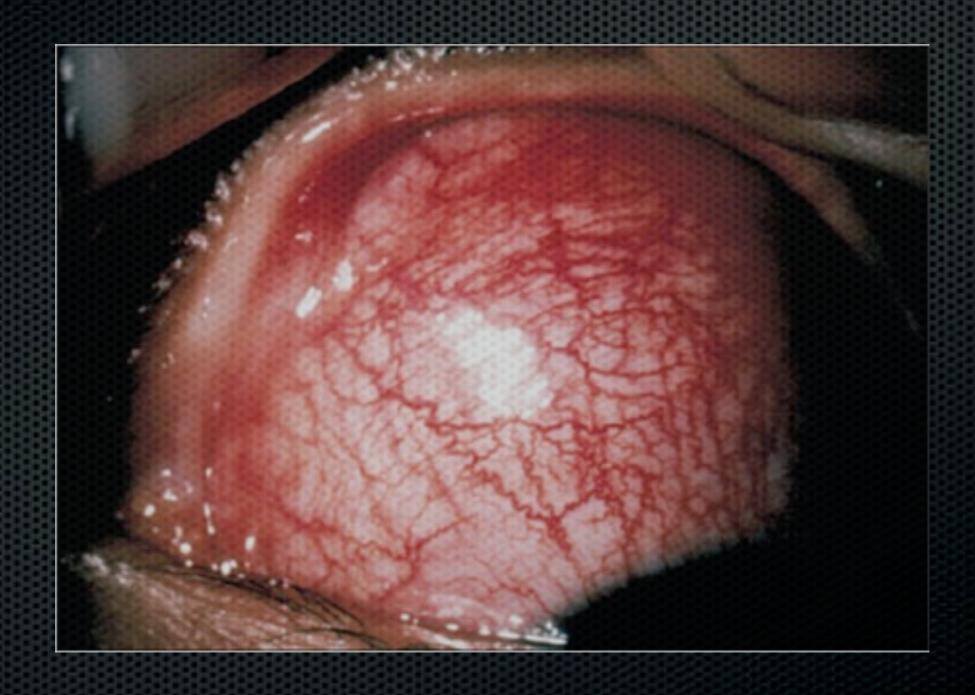






- More localised area of conjunctival injection
- Scleritis secondary to RA or other autoimmune conditions
- Often no cause found for episcleritis
- Pt % eye pain and eyeball is tender
- Larger blood vessels seen than with conjunctivitis
- Scleritis more painful & eye may perforate. Darker look
- Treat underlying cause, steroids. Refer all Scleritis



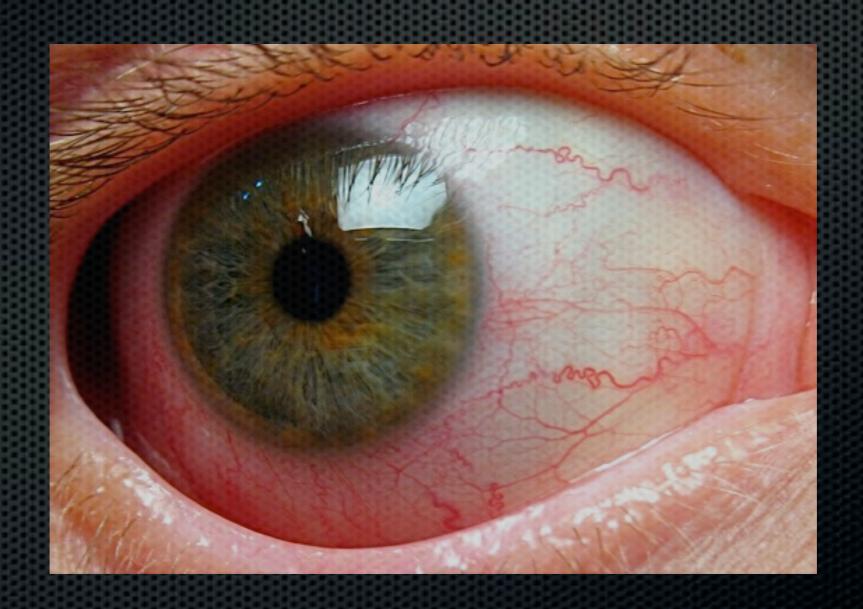


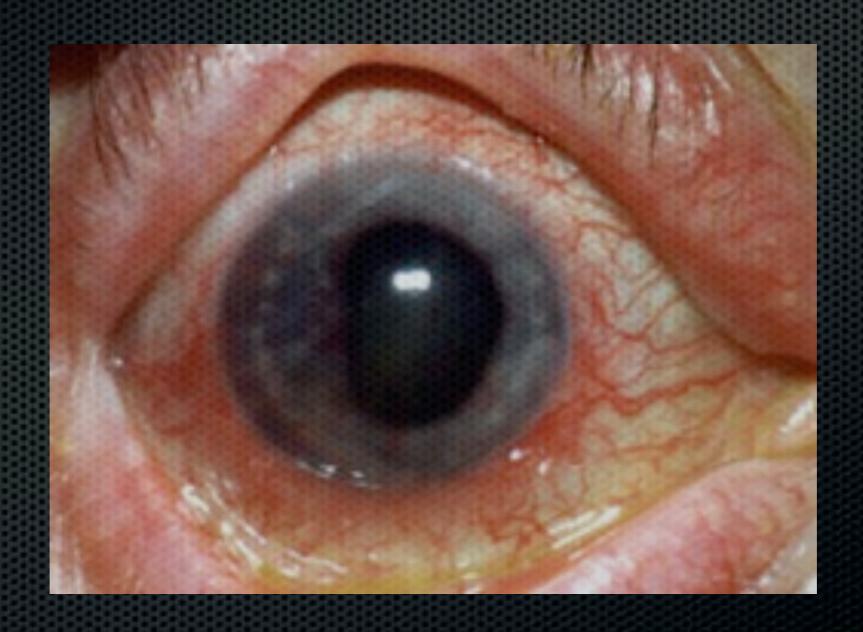


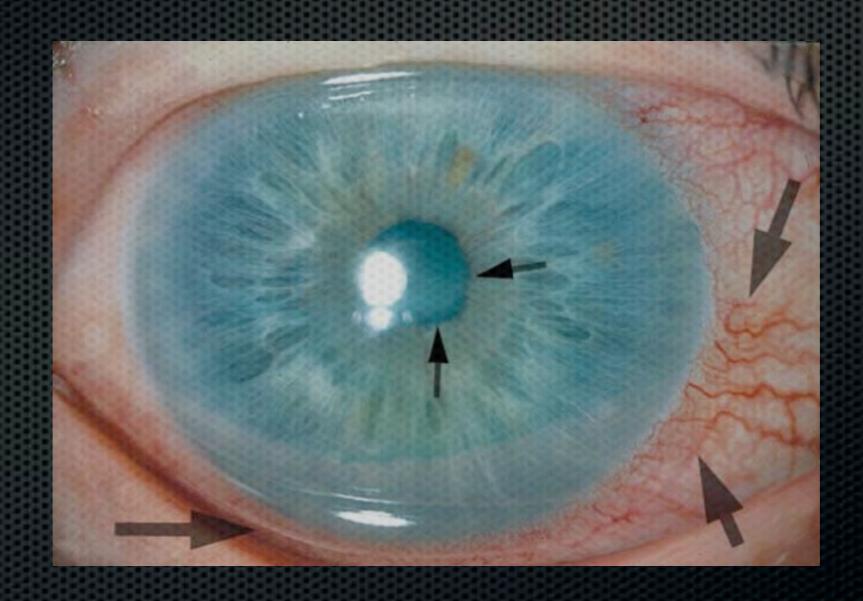


- Young/middle aged
- Usually associated with underlying problem: RA, ankylosing spondylosis, inflammatory bowel disease, sarcoid, AIDS
- Often had previous history
- Pain, photophobia, floaters
- Reduced VA

- Peri-limbic injection
- Pupil smaller/misshapen
- Pain testing opposite pupil/accommodation (Talbots test)
- Posterior synechiae/ hypopyon/precipitates
- Refer/need topical steroids/mydriatics/ analgesia



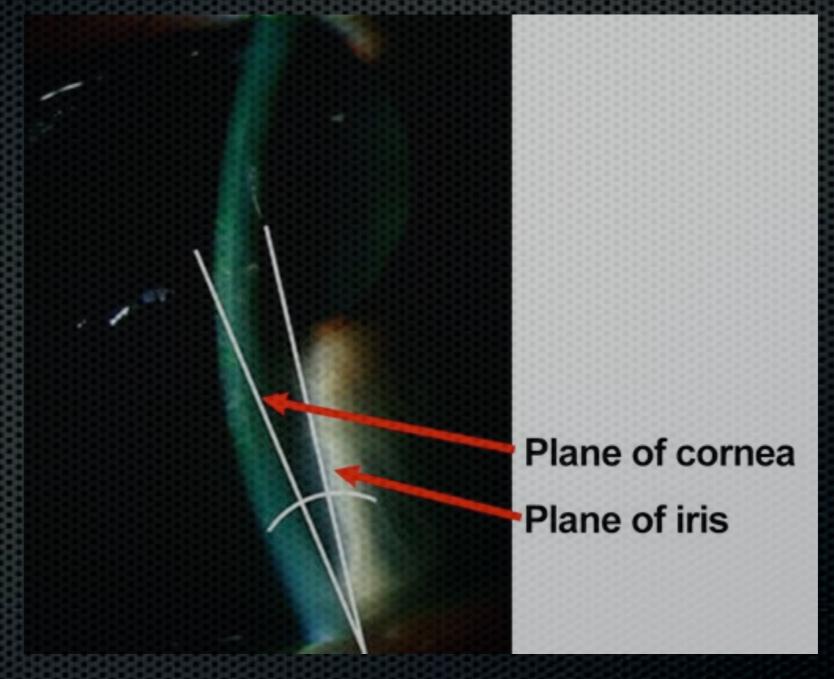




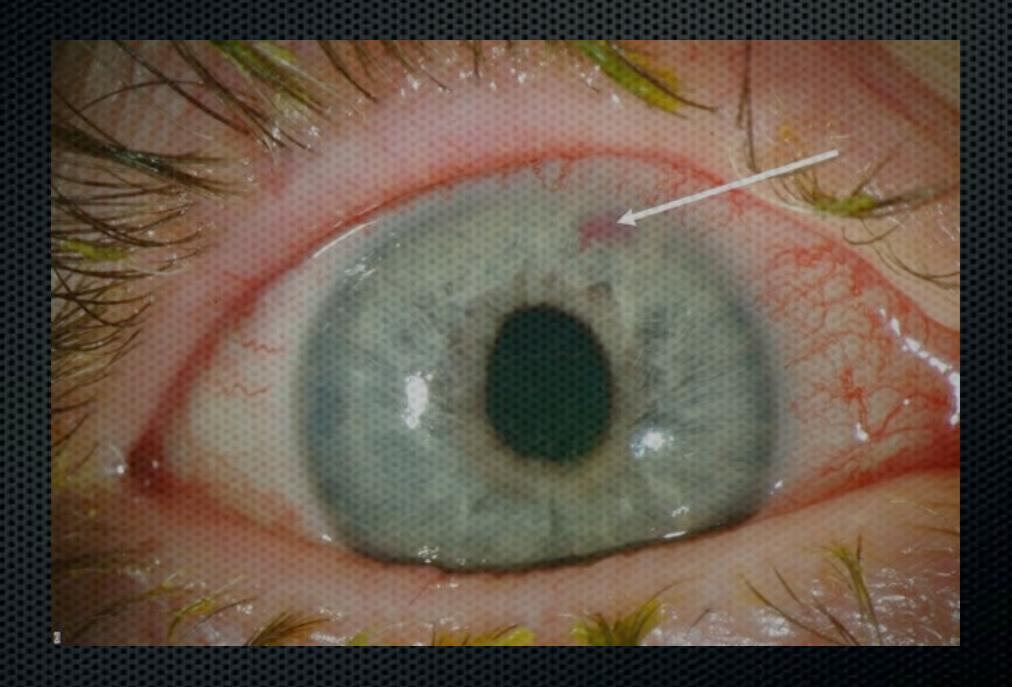


- Long sighted, middleaged/elderly
- Blocked canal of Schlemm causes increased pressure
- Blurred vision/haloes
- Severe eye pain/ headache/vomiting

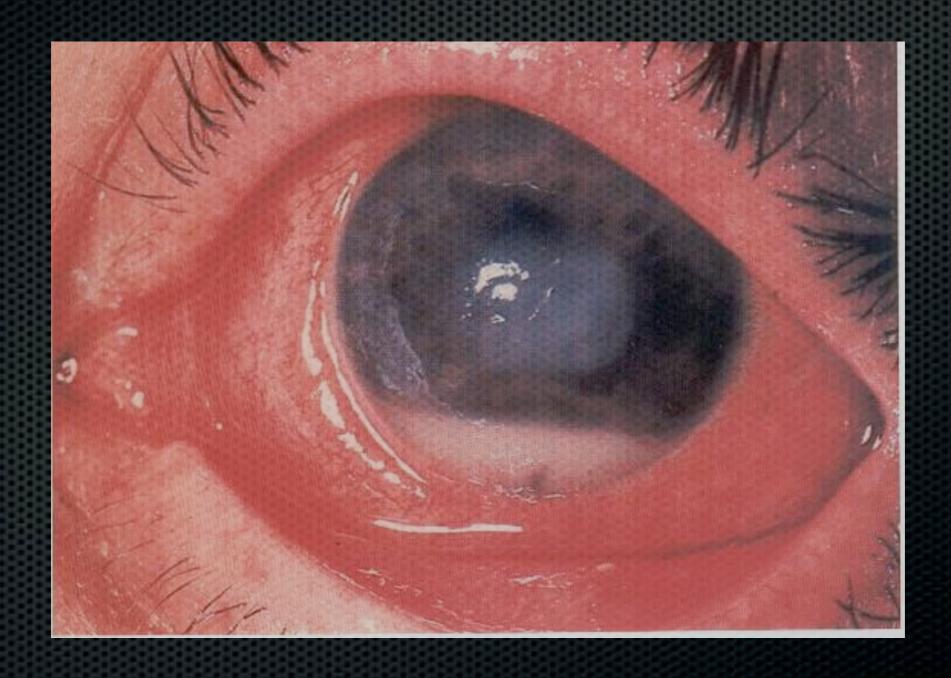
- Reduced VA, cloudy cornea
- Pupil ovoid, semi-dilated
- Firm eye ball
- Pilocarpine 2% q15m both eyes,
   acetazolamide 500mg iv, analgesia, urgent referral

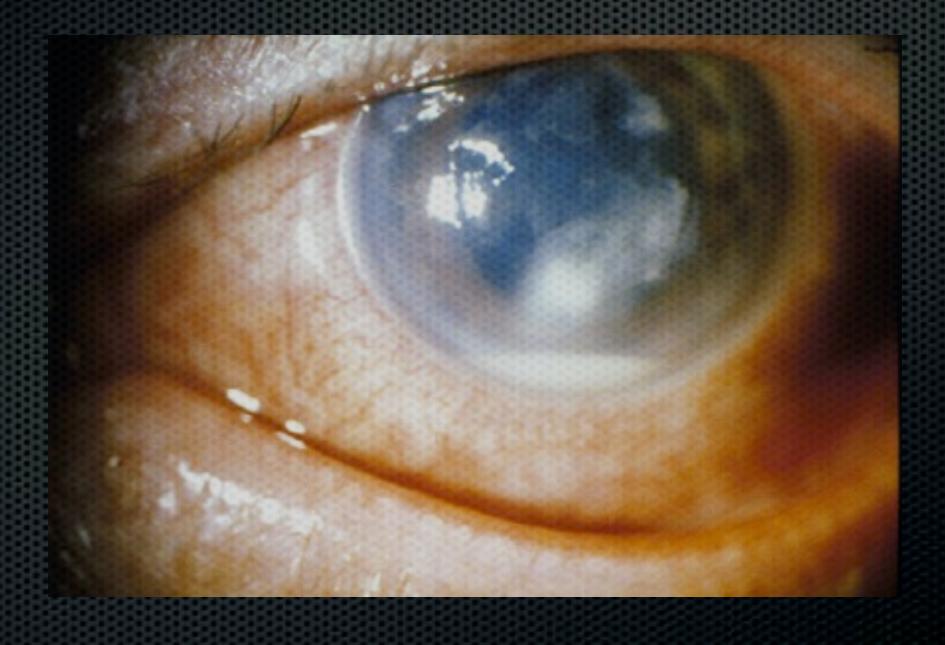


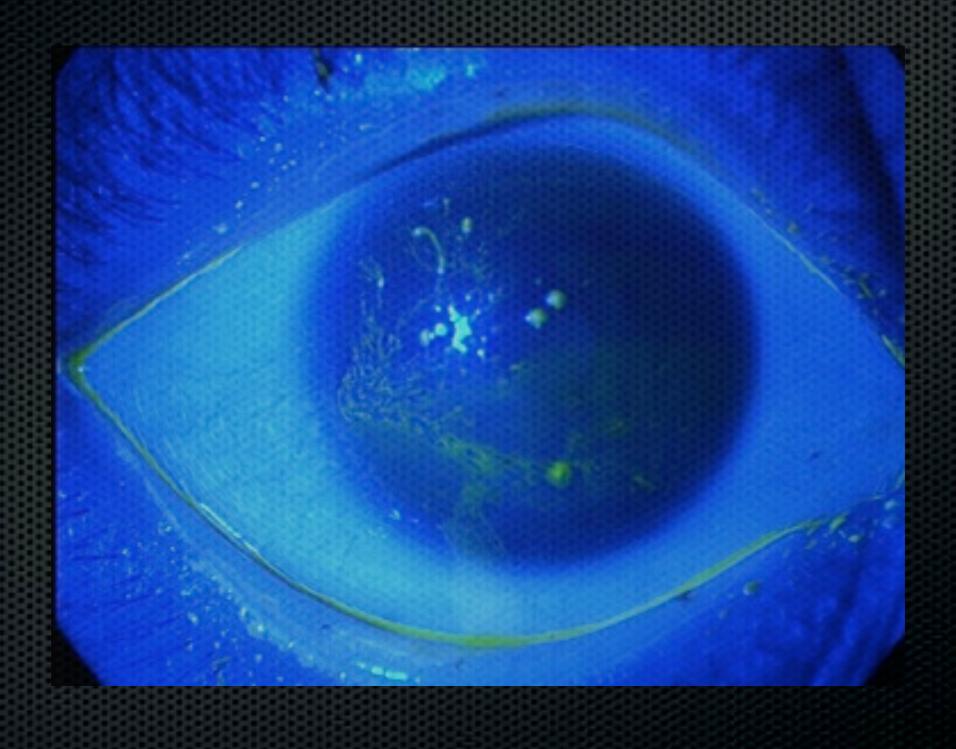




- Painful, blepharospasm
- Usually infection related
- White from oedema
- May have hypopyon (bacterial cause)
- Can get bacterial keratitis in contact lense wearers
- Dendritic pattern-herpetic, need topical acyclovir (steroids can cause perforation)
- REFER







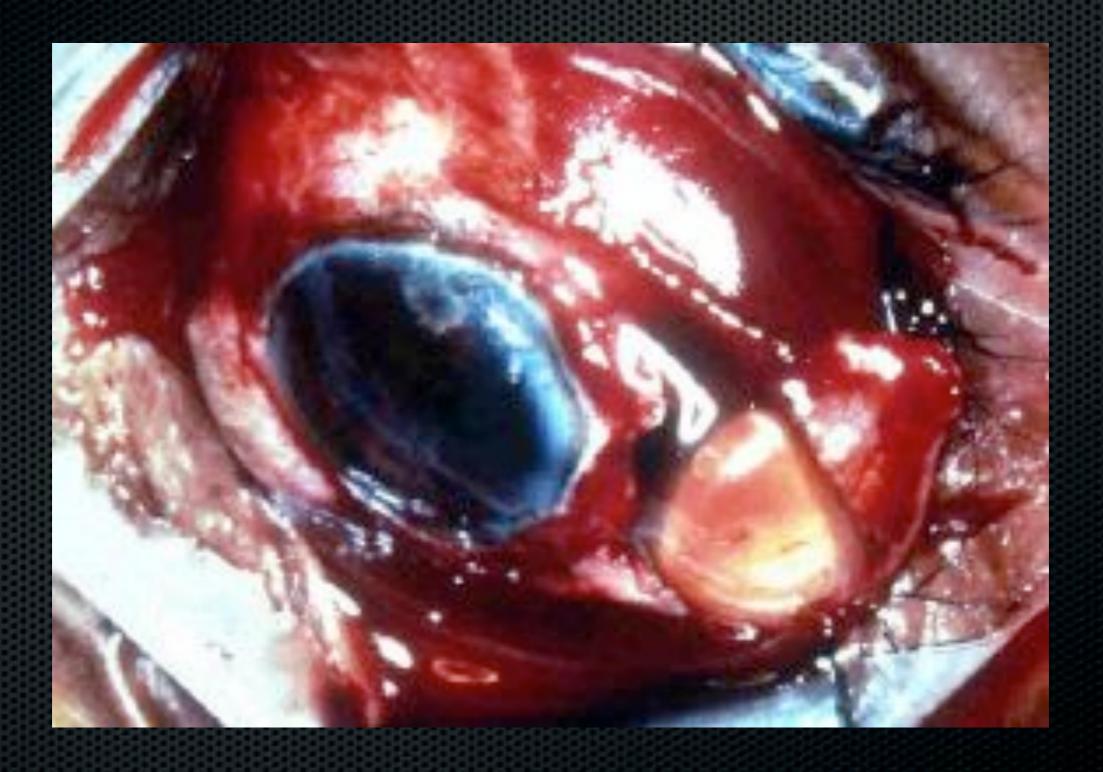


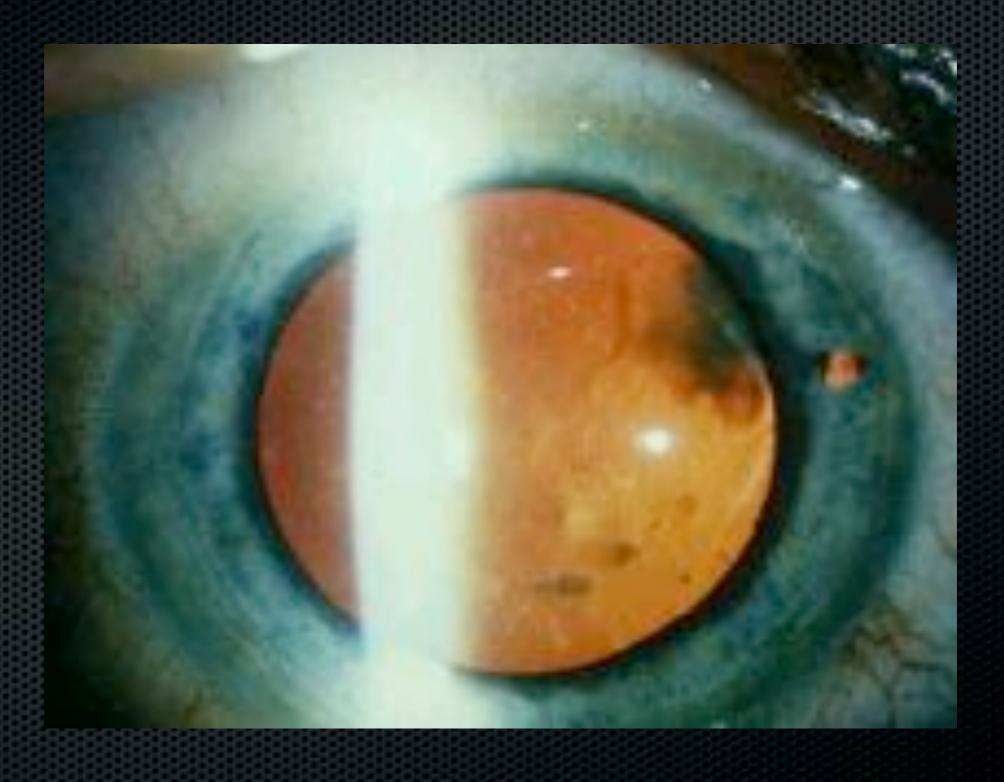
- Simple eyelid lacerations parallel with edge-suture
- If perpendicular to edge, refer for repair
- If near lacrimal punctae/duct, refer (need reconstruction with stent)
- Penetrating eye injury: often inf. corneoscleral (blink). Easily missed with tragic results
  - May have \$\forall VA\$, opacity in cornea/lens, hyphaema, irregular pupil, vitreous haemorrhage
  - X-ray +/-CT/USS.
  - Never manipulate FB-refer urgently. Analgesia





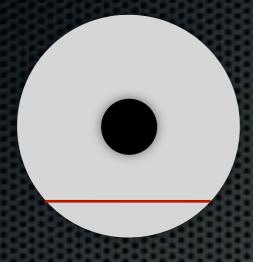




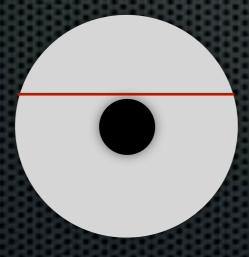




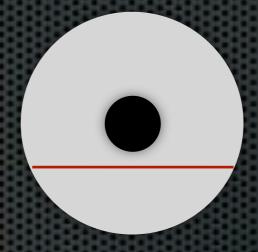
### Hyphaema Grading



l: <1/3



|||:>1/2|



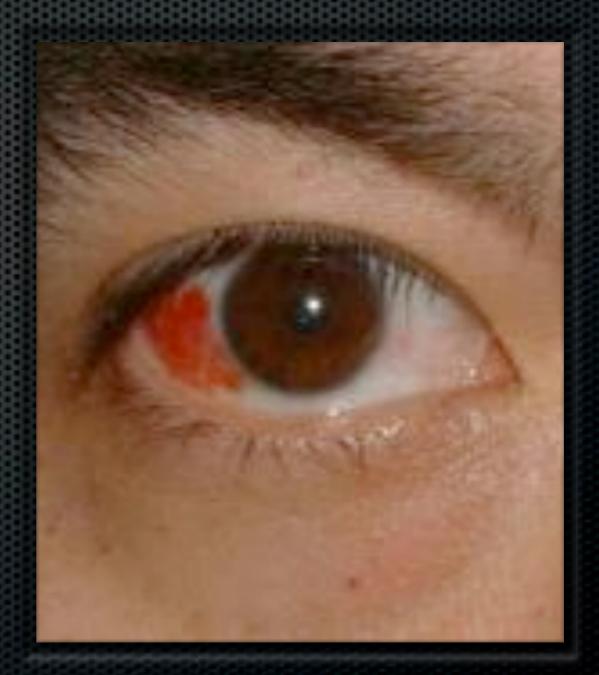
II: 1/3-1/2



IV: full

# Sub-conjunctival haemorrhage

- Common
- May occur spontaneously or after minimal trauma eg rubbing eyes
- Can occur in hypertension, with warfarin-so check!
- Can't see back in fracture of zygomatic complex
- Reassure ++, NO Rx required



- Central Retinal artery thrombosis; fundoscopy
- Central Retinal vein thrombosis; fundoscopy
- Retinal detachment;
   preceding flashing lights,
   floaters, more common in short sighted
- Vitreous haemorrhage/ detachment; blobs or floaters, reduced red reflex and can see floaters on fundoscopy

- Disciform macular
   degeneration-alteration of lines, loss of direct vision, >60yrs
- Retrobulbar neuritis; 20-40yrs, 우, pain on eye movement, central field loss, could indicate MS
- Refer all these



