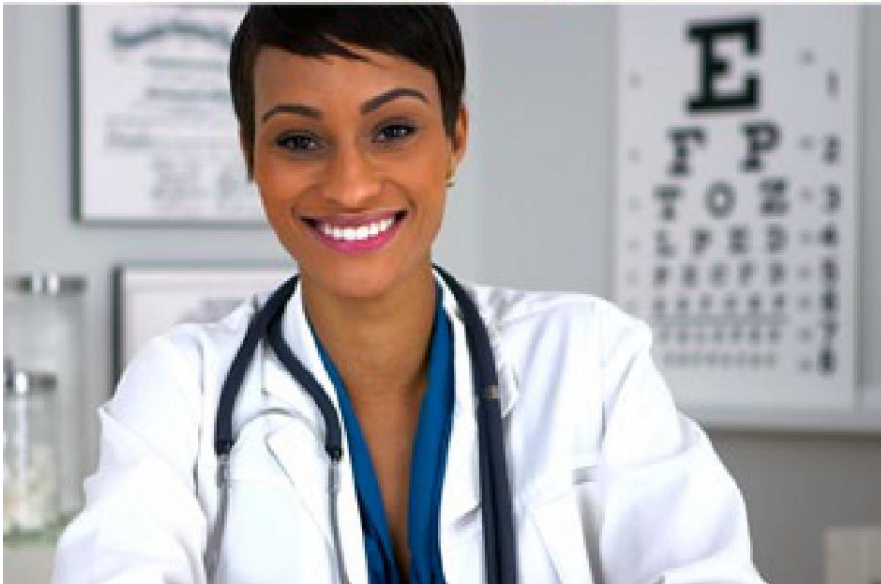




Conjunctivitis (Pink Eye)



Overview

This is a swelling or an inflammation of the conjunctiva, a thin, clear layer of tissue in the eye. The conjunctiva covers the white part of your eye, and also the inner side of your eyelids.

Causes

Most often, conjunctivitis is caused by a viral or a bacterial infection. But it can also be caused by an allergic reaction. Things like pets, pollen or mold can trigger it. Conjunctivitis can be caused by irritants such as smoke or chemical fumes. And, it can be caused by contact lenses.

Symptoms

Symptoms of conjunctivitis can include pain, itching and redness. Symptoms may affect one or both eyes. Your vision may blur, and bright light may hurt. Your eyes may feel gritty. They may be watery. Crust may form on your eyelids when you sleep.

Treatment

Treatment options depend on the cause of your conjunctivitis. You may benefit from medicated eyedrops. Cool compresses may help. You may also need to avoid things that irritate your eyes. Your healthcare provider can create a care plan that's right for you.