EYE INJURIES (Foreign Body, Abrasions)

You have had a foreign body (particle) removed from the surface of your eye or you have an injury to the clear covering on the front of your eye (the cornea). Even a small particle or scratch can cause a lot of pain. If a numbing medicine was used, your eye will be numb for about 2 hours.

Please follow these instructions carefully:

- Use any prescribed medicine as directed.
- Do not rub your eye.
- If your eye was patched, keep the patch on for 24 hours. Do not try to open your eye beneath the patch.
- Do not drive or operate machinery while wearing an eye patch. Be careful of stairs.
- Eye drops or ointment may be prescribed. Pull your lower eyelid down and "drop" the medicine inside your lower lid. Do not touch your eye with the bottle or tube. ALWAYS make sure that it is YOUR prescribed eye medicine which is being placed into YOUR eye.
- Do not use a contact lens in the injured eye until at least 3 days after your treatment is finished (and you are better). If the irritation returns, stop using contact lenses and see your eye doctor.
- See a doctor as instructed to recheck your eye.

Return to the Emergency Department or see your eye doctor right away if any problems develop, including the following:

- Redness or swelling in or around your eye.
- You still have pain after 24 hours or pain is getting worse.
- Blurry vision lasting more than 2 hours after removing the patch.
- A change in the size of your pupil (black part of your eye) as compared to the other eye.
- Anything else that worries you.

The Emergency Department is open 24 hours a day for any problems.