Corneal Ulcer

You have an infection of the eye with an ulcer on the clear part of the eye (*cornea*). This condition may be caused by both viruses and bacteria. It is common in contact lens wearers. Proper treatment is important. Ulcers are painful. **They may also scar the cornea and cause permanent damage to the eye.**

TREATMENT

- Antibiotic eye drops and/or ointment.
- Pain medicine or medication to dilate your eye.
- Patching of the eye to reduce irritation from blinking and bright light. When your eye is patched, you should not drive or operate machinery. You will have reduced side vision and ability to judge distance.
- Do not rub your eye. This may increase the irritation and spread the infection.
- Stay in a dark room and use sunglasses to reduce light sensitivity.

If you wear contact lenses, do not use them until your eye caregiver approves. **Follow-up care is necessary to be sure the corneal ulcer is healing**. See your caregiver or eye specialist as suggested for follow-up.

SEEK CARE IMMEDIATELY IF YOU HAVE:

- Loss of vision.
- Increasing pain or discharge from the eye.

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