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Peri-orbital Cellulitis



Patient information

Peri-orbital Cellulitis

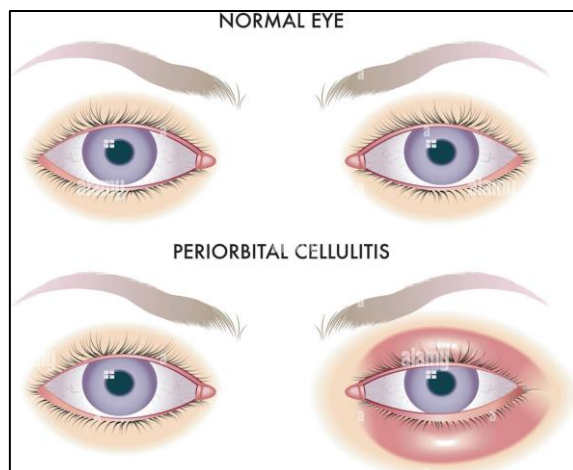


Excellent patient care, together

What is Peri-orbital Cellulitis?

Peri-orbital cellulitis is an infection of the eye lid and/or the surrounding skin.

It often develops gradually, with swelling and redness to the eye lid, surrounding eye area and may spread to the cheek and surrounding facial area, with the swelling and redness most often being unilateral (one sided). The eye remains unaffected.



<https://myvision.org/eye-conditions/periorbital-cellulitis/>

What causes peri-orbital cellulitis?

The majority of cases occur following an injury to the skin around the eye, such as a cut/graze or eczema around the eye area. However it may also present following an illness such as a cough, cold or sinusitis where the infection spreads to the eye.

Symptoms

- Swollen eyelid or swelling to the surrounding eye area
- Surrounding eye area may appear red and tender and/or warm to touch
- Your child may be unable to fully open their eye
- Temperature may be present

RED FLAG (WORRYING) SYMPTOMS

Following treatment most children will recover without any concerns however if you notice or are concerned about any of the symptoms below it is important you seek medical advice immediately by attending your local emergency department or contacting 999, in case of developing and/or worsening infection.

- Worsening redness and/or swelling
- Pain on eye movement
- Any changes or decrease in vision
- If the eye appears to be bulging or sticking out
- Worsening fever
- Difficulty in breathing
- Any changes in behaviour, for example confusion and/or disorientation
- Child is unable to take or tolerate the oral antibiotics as prescribed (if appropriate)

Investigations and Treatment

Most children can be successfully treated with a course of oral antibiotics. However in more severe cases or in cases where oral antibiotics are not tolerated, intravenous antibiotics (administered into a vein) may be required.

Following completion of treatment you may be advised to attend your child's GP to ensure all symptoms have resolved.

Caring for your child's symptoms at home

If your child requires intravenous antibiotics (administered into a vein) they will be admitted to hospital for treatment to be provided.

However most children can be managed at home, to complete a course of oral antibiotics, under the supervision of their parent / carer.

Alongside this you can:

- Give regular pain relief - Paracetamol and Ibuprofen (dosing and frequency as per medication instructions) unless you have been advised not to by a medical professional.
- Keep the eye clean and dry
- Ensure your child is fully vaccinated as two of the bacteria known to cause this infection are covered in the routine vaccination programme in the UK.

When to seek further help?

Return to CED if your child shows any of the red flag symptoms detailed above.

If you have concerns that your child is not showing signs of improvement or is worsening then please:

- Contact your own GP for reassessment
- Call 111 out of normal working hours for advice
- Return to CED

How to contact us

Department name

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Or type in: bit.ly/4o3QVFJ



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