

Foreign Body- Superficial

What is it?

- **Foreign Body-Superficial**– of the wrist, elbow, or forearm without a major open wound with or without infection
- **Superficial Foreign Bodies to the Eye**- can stick to the front of the eye or get trapped under the eyelid or penetrate the eye traveling at high speed usually made of metal or wood

Signs and Symptoms:

- **Symptoms**- mild or severe pain, redness, bruising, tearing, photophobia



Recommendations:

- **Removal of Thorns**- tape, tweezers, needle,
- **Always**- sterilize the utensil and clean the wound area

Facts:

- **Caused by**- blister, insect bite, flying objects in the eye, superficial injury to the neck, face and scalp; a splinter, fishhook, sliver of glass; a foreign body is embedded in the skin
- **Types of Foreign Bodies**- splinters, cactus spines, toothpicks, thorns, nails, sewing needles, pins, tacks, bullets, BB's, glass, fiberglass pencil lead, a torn contact lens, dirt, sand, metal, plastic, leaves
- **Incidence**- in males is much higher than females; usually occurs in people younger than 40



What can I do?

- **See your Health Care Provider**- for more information; or if something is embedded in the eye or skin and you can't get it out, fever, severe pain, deep puncture wound; removed but pain becomes worse, looks infected
 - **Tetanus Shot**- make sure every 5 years
 - **Medications**- antibiotic ointment