

# Conjunctivitis

*This guide is based on NHS policies, but it cannot cover all the possibilities. If you think that there is a special reason why you need an appointment which we have not listed here, please dial 111 for an assessment.*

Check the reasons for Priority Access as listed on the back of this sheet

YES

Is there something that puts the person at high risk from infections?

YES

Is this a baby under 4 weeks of age with a red eye?

YES

Is the eyesight affected?

YES

Does the person wear contact lenses?

YES

**See a doctor or minor illness specialist for an assessment**

Antibiotic drops are not recommended but you could talk to a pharmacist or pharmacy assistant about lubricant eye drops.

# Priority Access

Patients who are especially vulnerable to infections will be given priority when they request a same-day appointment.

This includes:

- **Babies under six months old**
- People with:
  - **Serious breathing problems** (e.g. severe asthma or COPD)
  - **Current cancer treatment**
  - **End of life care**
  - **Problems with the immune system (“immunosuppressed”):**
    - **HIV, leukaemia, poorly controlled diabetes, or spleen problems**
    - **Transplant** patients
    - Taking medicines that increase the risk of infection, such as **prednisolone (steroid tablets)** or **chemotherapy**
    - Treatment from a **rheumatology** specialist such as methotrexate or “biologicals”