**Pink eye affects six million people a year**\(^1\) and is highly contagious.

For clarity in pink eye cases, ask your physician to use the latest test, **AdenoPlus** to accurately diagnose viral pink eye.

**Treatment Options**
Always follow your physician’s instructions. Below are general guidelines for treatment.

**Viral Pink Eye**
- Apply a cool compress to the infected eye three to four times a day for 15 minutes, use a clean washcloth each time
- Wash your hands frequently
- Use over the counter antihistamine drops, as recommended by your physician
- Use a clean pillowcase each night
- Wear sunglasses if your eyes are light sensitive
- Don’t wear contact lenses while feeling discomfort, especially if the eyes remain red
- Throw away contact lenses that have been worn while infected

**Bacterial Pink Eye**
- Antibiotic eye drops or ointment

**Preventative Tips**
To help prevent the spread of pink eye, follow these easy tips:
- Wash your hands frequently
- Do not touch your eyes
- Do not share eye makeup
- Do not share towels, washcloths, or sheets

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**References:**
Pink Eye
Pink eye also known as acute conjunctivitis is when the eyelid lining becomes inflammed from bacteria or viral infections. Some forms of pink eye can also be caused by allergy, eye injury or a reaction to medication.

Although most cases of pink eye are not considered serious, if left untreated it can cause damage, scarring or even vision loss.

Pink Eye Causes
Pink eye is spread through airborne droplets and hand to eye contact. Viruses are the most common cause of pink eye.

Although pink eye is most prevalent in children anyone at any age can be infected by pink eye.

Understanding the cause of pink eye is important to getting the appropriate treatment. Evidence shows that 95% of health-care professionals will simply prescribe an antibiotic for a diagnosis of pink eye without determining if the cause is viral, bacterial or allergic. A misdiagnosis can lead to mistreatment and the spread of disease.

Understanding the Difference: Viral vs Bacterial
Both viral and bacterial pink eye are highly contagious, easily spreading from person to person.

Viral pink eye results from similar viruses found to cause the common cold. Antibiotic treatments are not effective in treating the viral form of conjunctivitis.

Bacterial pink eye is caused by bacteria such as chlamydia, staphylococci, or streptococci. Antibiotics should be used to treat this form of pink eye.

Pink Eye Symptoms
Symptoms vary based on the inflammation cause, typical symptoms include:

- Blurred vision
- Burning eyes
- Crusty discharge
- Eyelid swelling
- Increased tears
- Itchy eyes
- Red eyes
- Sensitivity to light
- Watery discharge

Proper Diagnosis
If you suspect that either you or your child have pink eye, ask your healthcare provider to collect a sample from the infected eye to make a determination if it's bacterial or viral. When a diagnosis is based on signs and symptoms alone studies have shown that a misdiagnosis occurs in nearly half of the cases.

A proper diagnosis will also help reduce the cost of medications and reduce the resistance build up from unnecessary antibiotics.

Pink Eye Test
There is an FDA-cleared test (AdenoPlus™) that your physician can use at the time of your appointment to diagnose the viral form of pink eye.

AdenoPlus is similar to the rapid result Strep test for sore throats. The test consists of taking a small tear sample collected from the lower eyelid. In just 10-minutes your physician will know if the infected eye is the viral form of pink eye.