

Checklist for Red Eye

The student asks the following questions:

- How long have you had the redness in your eye(s) and did it begin abruptly or gradually?
- What were you doing when you noticed the redness in your eye (determine if recent eye trauma)?
- Are the symptoms confined to just one eye or do you experience symptoms in both eyes?
- Are the symptoms constant or intermittent?
- Do you have visual disturbances? Do you wear glasses or contact lenses?
- How often do you see an ophthalmologist, for what condition(s)?
- What medications do you use?
- Do you have eye pain? If so, describe the intensity and frequency.
- Do you have light sensitivity (photophobia)?
- Do you have itching, tearing, crusting, or discharge (determine if mucoid or purulent)?
- Has anyone around you had similar symptoms of red eye?
- Have you had red eye before? If so, how frequently?
- Do you have a history of allergies, herpes simplex infection (past or recent outbreak), or sexually transmitted diseases?
- Do you have a new sexual partner

Note: (assess the possibility of chlamydial or herpes simplex conjunctivitis)?

- Have you had a recent upper respiratory infection?
- Do you have nausea or vomiting

Note: (may be from increased intraocular pressure or acute glaucoma)?