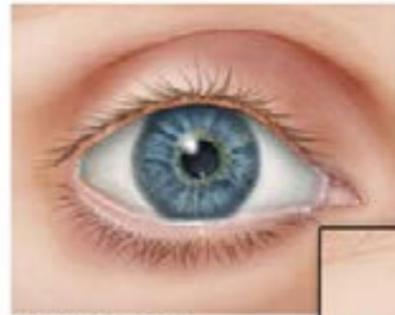


July-September 2019

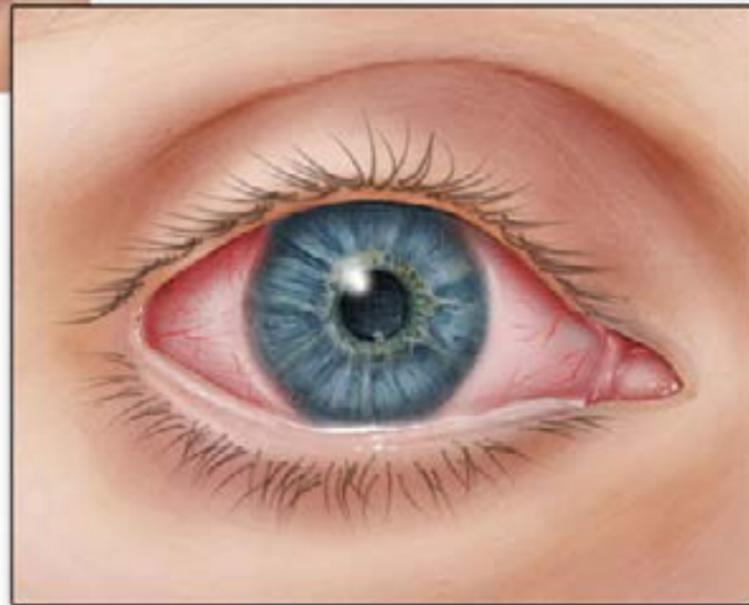
Joplin and Jasper County

Communicable Diseases Newsletter

Pink Eye



Normal eye



Eye with inflamed or irritated conjunctiva

Pink eye, or conjunctivitis, is one of the most common and treatable eye conditions in the world. It can affect both children and adults. It is an inflammation of the thin, clear tissue that lines the inside of the eyelid (conjunctiva) and the white part of the eyeball. This inflammation makes blood vessels more visible and gives the eye a pink or reddish color.

The symptoms may vary, but usually include:

- Redness or swelling of the white of the eye or inside the eyelids
- Increased amount of tears
- Eye discharge which may be clear, yellow, white, or green
- Itchy, irritated, and/or burning eyes
- Gritty feeling in the eye
- Crusting of the eyelids or lashes
- Contact lenses that feel uncomfortable and/or do not stay in place on the eye

There are four main causes of pink eye:

- Viruses
- Bacteria
- Allergens (like pet dander or dust mites)
- Irritants (like smog or swimming pool chlorine) that infect or irritate the eye and eyelid lining

It can be difficult to determine the exact cause of pink eye because some signs and symptoms may be the same no matter the cause.

When pink eye is caused by a virus or bacteria, it is very contagious. It can spread easily and quickly from person to person. Pink eye caused by allergens or irritants is not contagious. Follow these simple self-care steps to reduce the risk of getting or spreading pink eye:

- Wash your hands often with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds

- Avoid touching or rubbing your eyes
- Avoid sharing makeup, contact lenses and containers, and eyeglasses

There are times when it is important to see a healthcare provider for specific treatment and/or follow-up. You should see a healthcare provider if you have pink eye along with any of the following:

- Moderate to severe pain in your eye(s)
- Sensitivity to light or blurred vision
- Intense redness in the eye(s)
- A weakened immune system, for example from HIV or cancer treatment
- Symptoms that get worse or don't improve, including bacterial pink eye that does not improve after 24 hours of antibiotic use
- Pre-existing eye conditions that may put you at risk for complications or severe infection
- An infant or newborn with symptoms of pink eye should see a healthcare provider immediately.

Source: [CDC](https://www.cdc.gov)

Communicable Diseases

Communicable Diseases Reported* Joplin City/Jasper County 2018 and 2019 (January 1-September 30)				
	Joplin City		Jasper County	
	2018	2019	2018	2019
Campylobacteriosis	13	6	23	28
Coccidioidomycosis	0	1	0	1
Cryptosporidiosis	1	0	9	5
E. Coli Shiga Toxin Positive	0	0	9	8
E. Coli O157 H7	0	1	3	0
Ehrlichia Chaffeensis	3	4	9	6
Giardiasis	3	1	2	3
Haemophilus Influenzae, Invasive	1	1	1	0
Hepatitis A Acute	0	2	0	1
Hepatitis B	5	2	5	7
Hepatitis B (Pregnancy) Prenatal	1	1	2	1
Hepatitis B Acute	3	5	2	6
Hepatitis B Chronic Infection	7	6	5	3
Hepatitis C	4	3	2	7
Hepatitis C Chronic Infection	74	77	39	41
Influenza (Deaths)	7	1	6	3
Legionellosis	5	1	1	5
Lyme	0	3	1	2
MOTT	16	8	3	5
Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever	15	22	64	46
Rubella	0	1	0	2
Salmonellosis	9	4	15	14
Shigellosis	1	3	0	3
Strep Pneumoniae Invasive	14	5	6	8
TB Disease	3	1	1	1
TB Infection	38	16	11	18
Toxic Shock (Strep) Syndrome	0	0	1	1
Varicella (Chickenpox)	1	2	8	9
Total Cases Per Year	224	177	228	234

Sexually Transmitted Diseases Jasper County January-August 2019	
	2019
Chlamydia	444
Gonorrhea	172
Syphilis	67
Total	683

According to the data, Jasper County has seen a total of 683 sexually transmitted disease cases from January to August 2019. The majority of STD cases seen were positive for chlamydia, followed by gonorrhea and syphilis respectively. Data for STD count is tracked by the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services and is subject to change as reports are collected.

Source: DHSS

Key

2019 more than 2018	
2019 less than 2018	

Source: DHSS

*Most commonly reported cases. This data is subject to change.

Influenza Vaccine



Residents in the City of Joplin now have another option for vaccinations! Fees for these vaccinations are dependent upon insurance coverages and will be processed through a program called Vaxcare. This program allows the Joplin City Health Department to accommodate all residents, children, and adults. Staff will obtain insurance information and check for eligibility. The Department has flu vaccine for all ages, 6 months and older, including that for pregnant women. Many insurances pay no co-pay. Uninsured children and adults may qualify for flu vaccinations with a \$13.00 co-pay. Active Medicaid children pay no co-pay. Appointments are preferred, but walk-ins will be accepted if a nurse is available. To schedule call 417-623-6122 ext. 266 or 257.

Jasper County Health Department also has flu vaccinations available through the Vaxcare and VFC/317 programs. Uninsured/Underinsured children with active Medicaid may receive a vaccination with no out-of-pocket expense as well as Uninsured/Underinsured adults. We also have Pneumovax23 and Prevnar 13 available to those with insurance or paying out of pocket. Please call (417) 358-3111 or (877) 879-9131 to schedule an appointment or to have our staff check insurance eligibility.

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Like us on Facebook:

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