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Conjunctivitis

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Why is in news? Conjunctivitis hits Tamil Nadu

Conjunctivitis, or pink eye, is an irritation or inflammation of the conjunctiva, which covers the white part of the eyeball.

It can be caused by **allergies or a bacterial or viral infection**.

Conjunctivitis can be **extremely contagious and is spread by contact with eye secretions** from someone who is infected.

Symptoms include redness, itching and tearing of the eyes. It can also lead to discharge or crusting around the eyes.

It's important to stop wearing contact lenses whilst affected by conjunctivitis.

It often resolves on its own, but treatment can speed the recovery process.

Allergic conjunctivitis can be treated with antihistamines.

Bacterial conjunctivitis can be treated with antibiotic eye drops.