<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Drug</strong></th>
<th><strong>CHLORAMPHENICOL</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Presentation</strong></td>
<td>Clear to slightly hazy, colourless, sterile eye drops 0.5% (5mg/mL). Single patient use (discard after 1 month of opening)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Indications</strong></td>
<td>Prophylactic antibiotic coverage against bacterial infection in superficial ocular injuries including corneal foreign body and “welder’s flash” burn</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| **Contraindications** | * Known allergy to chloramphenicol  
  * Restriction of eye movement / abnormal pupils / cloudy cornea  
  * Chronic eye disease (e.g. glaucoma)  
  * Recent (within 6 months) eye surgery, including laser surgery |
| **Dosage** | 1 – 2 drops into affected eye/s every 4 hours (up to 5 days) |
| **Administration** | Ensure contact lenses are removed  
  Instil dose into affected eye/s  
  (see [Emergency Eye Manual](#) pg. 26 for eye drop instructions) |
| **Monitoring** | Patients should be instructed to cease using contact lenses during treatment and seek GP or optometrist advice prior to recommencing use |
| **Side effects** | Local ocular irritation; burning or itching. Allergic type reactions |
| **Documentation** | Administration record is to be documented by the administering nurse. Document on the “once only” section of the appropriate medication chart  
  The record of administration must be checked and countersigned by a medical officer within 24 hours of initial administration |

**References**

1. MIMS Australia Pty Ltd. (2009) *Chloromycetin Eye Drops* CMPMedica Australia Pty Ltd, St Leonards  

2. MIMS Australia Pty Ltd. (2009) *Chlorsig Eye Drops* CMPMedica Australia Pty Ltd, St Leonards  


4. MIMS Australia Pty Ltd. (2009) *Minims Chloramphenicol 0.5% Eye Drops* CMPMedica Australia Pty Ltd, St Leonards  