

CLEAN FACES, STRONG EYES!

TRACHOMA

CHECKING FOR TRICHIASIS



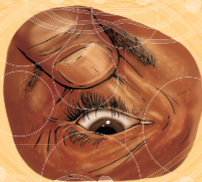
THREE T's FOR TRICHIASIS

THINK



Check for
trichiasis at every
old person's check

THUMB



Use your thumb
to lift the eyelid off
the eyeball

TORCH



Shine the torch to
check for inturned
eyelashes

REMEMBER:

- Trichiasis must be checked in every health check
- Look for trichiasis if patient has sore or watery eyes
- People with trichiasis must be referred for eyelid surgery

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MYTH # 1 “Trachoma and Trichiasis are not an important problem.”

163 communities in Australia still need trachoma intervention, 33% exceed WHO active trachoma thresholds (5%) and 8% are still hyper endemic (>20%). (NTSRU)

Trichiasis rates are 10 times the WHO threshold (0.1%). (NTSRU)

NTSRU - Australian Trachoma Surveillance Report 2013. National Trachoma Surveillance and Reporting Unit, The Kirby Institute, University of New South Wales.

MYTH # 2 “Old people usually have sore eyes and poor vision.”

It is not normal for older people to have sore eyes or poor vision.

Clinics must check for trichiasis (in-turned lashes) before treating sore eyes and make a referral if further treatment is needed. Eye checks are part of the Adult Health Check (MBS Item 715).

Trachoma and hygiene resources are available free from
www.iehu.unimelb.edu.au