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How to work with grading scales

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Grading scales are an essential tool for recording and monitoring clinical changes to ocular tissues. Standardised scales are used to assess the severity of a wide range of conditions including those associated with contact lens wear. These tools can now be considered to be an expected norm in contact lens practice.

Types of grading scales:

Several grading scales are available for use in clinical contact lens practice. For example:



Johnson & Johnson Vision Care Institute Eye Grading App

Shows nine conditions and severity levels based on real-time animation.

Enables severity levels in 0.1 increments. Report can be exported for practice records.

Access app [here](#)

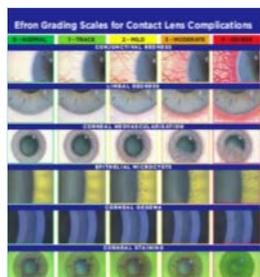


Johnson & Johnson Vision Care Institute Clinical Grading Scale

An adapted version of the Efron grading scale, for easy chair-side reference.

A guide to slit lamp illumination, staining, lid assessments and signs of oxygen deficiency is found on the reverse side.

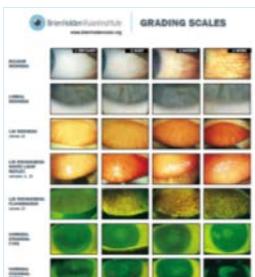
Access grading scale [here](#) (laminated hardcopy handed out at courses)



The Efron Grading Scale

This grading scale uses painted images and provides a standard clinical reference for describing the severity of 16 contact lens complications with a grading of 0 to 4.

Access grading scale [here](#)



The Brien Holden Vision Institute (formerly CCLRU)

This grading scale uses photographic images for a range of conditions.

Access grading scale [here](#)

Clinical conditions:

The use of grading scales has been clinically validated for a variety of conditions such as:

- Bulbar Redness
- Lid Redness
- Corneal Staining
- Limbal Redness
- Lid Roughness
- Meibomian Gland Dysfunction

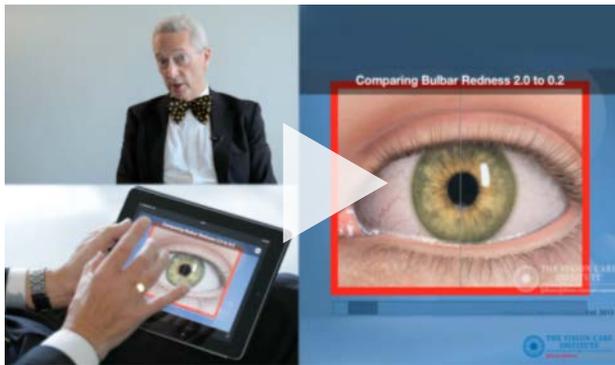
Although various systems are validated for clinical use, painted scales have been shown to be more reliable than photographic systems. Studies have also shown differences in precision and reliability between observers and between conditions.

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HOW TO WORK WITH GRADING SCALES



Professor Nathan Efron presents Johnson & Johnson Vision Care Institute Eye Grading app

When clicking on the video you will be transferred to Johnson & Johnson Vision Care Institute YouTube channel.

Top Tips for Best Practice:



For accuracy and reliability grade to the nearest 0.1. A change in grading scale units of 1.0 is clinically meaningful.



Appraise overall level of severity of condition and do not be distracted by specific manifestation. Then decide on the grade.



Do it! Consistent use of the same grading system is advisable to enable direct comparisons and communication with colleagues on clinical cases.

HOW TO FIND OUT MORE

- ❖ Click [here](#) for Johnson & Johnson Vision Care Institute Eye Grading app
- ❖ Click [here](#) for more details on grading scales in general
- ❖ Click [here](#) for a general refresher on slit lamp techniques
- ❖ Click [here](#) for a further reading list and references

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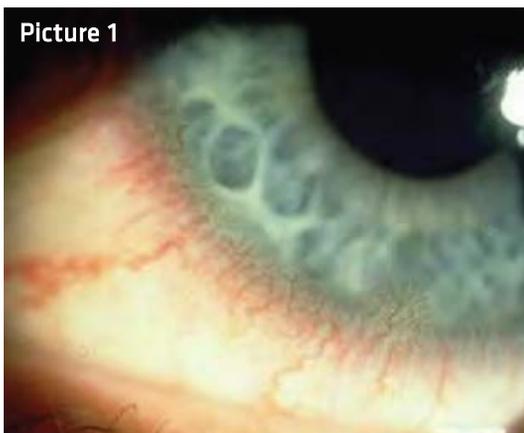
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IN-PRACTICE QUIZ

When you have read this guide, watched the video and accessed our recommended resources, why not take part in Johnson & Johnson Vision Care Institute in-practice quiz to test your clinical grading skills:

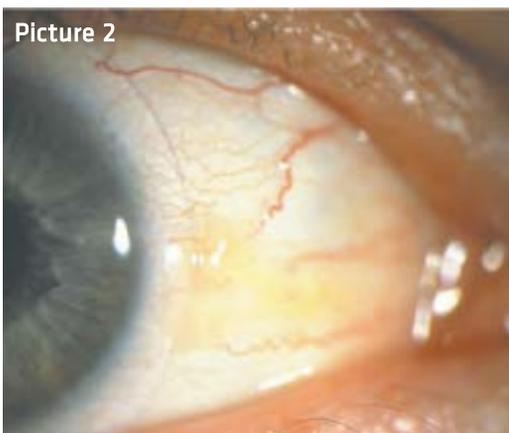
- Use the new Grading app, or a scale you typically use, to assign a grade to each condition
- Remember try to grade to the nearest 0.1
- Discuss with your colleagues and compare your grades
- Check out our [facebook page](#) next week and compare your results with 80 experienced practitioners

Picture 1



To what level of severity would you grade this limbal redness?

Picture 2



To what level of severity would you grade this pinguecula?

Picture 3



To what level of severity would you grade this lid redness and separately, lid roughness?

Remember – the results will be available on our [facebook page](#) next week!