



Eye injuries increase in boys

THE number of young boys admitted to hospital for serious eye injuries has close to doubled in the last ten years and its boys aged between three to nine years old who are most at risk, according to the Royal Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital and the Orthoptic Association of Australia.

Manager of the Orthoptics Department at the Royal Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital and President of the Orthoptic Association of Australia, Associate Professor Zoran Georgievski, said unfortunately boys will be boys and take more risks.

While the number of boys admitted to the Royal Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital for eye injuries over the past ten years has risen, the overall number of children admitted has stayed the same with the number of girls dropping significantly.



Eye injury data an eye-opener

THE number of young boys admitted to hospital for serious eye injuries has close to doubled in the past 10 years, and it is boys aged between three and nine who are most at risk.

Royal Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital orthoptics manager and Orthoptic Association of Australia president Associate Professor Zoran Georgievski said every day othoptists were working with children who had eye injuries to assess how their vision was affected, and to work towards rehabilitation.

"Unfortunately boys will be boys. They will take more risks and consequently end up in hospital more often."

While the number of boys admitted to the

Royal Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital for eye injuries in the past 10 years has risen, the overall number of children admitted has stayed the same, with the number of girls dropping significantly.

Hospital emergency department director Dr Carmel Crock said one of the reasons children were prone to eye injuries was that they were still developing coordination.

"Sharp pointed objects such as pens, nails, knives and scissors are the most common culprits, but injuries from these objects can be prevented with supervision.

"Accidents tend to occur around the home, both outdoors and indoors, with the hours between 4 and 6pm being a common time for them to happen," she said.

FED: Numbers of boys with serious eye injury on rise

Young Australian boys are increasingly being stabbed or poked in the eye .. as accidents involving pens .. nails .. knives and scissors continue to increase.

The Royal Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital says its case-load involving young boys has doubled in about a decade .. while for young girls there's been a decline.

The Melbourne hospital .. which deals with the most serious eye injuries in Victoria .. handled five to six injured boys a year up to about 2000.

But in the four years to 2009 .. the annual figure increased to 10 or 11 boys who each faced the possibility of permanent vision loss.

The average age of boys coming in is generally three to nine years-old .. an age group at additional risk because they're developing their hand-eye co-ordination.

AAP RTV dr/crh/psm/



Boys with serious eye injuries on the rise

"BOYS will be boys" is why every year more of them are accidentally poked or stabbed in the eye with pens, nails, knives and scissors, says a medical expert.

The Royal Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital says its caseload involving young boys has doubled in about a decade.

Yet for young girls there has actually been a decline.

The Melbourne hospital handled five to six injured boys a year up to about 2000.

In the four years to 2009, the annual figure increased to 10 or 11 boys who each faced the possibility of permanent vision loss.

The hospital's emergency department director Dr Carmel Crock says boys needing treatment were generally three to

nine years-old, an age group at additional risk because they were still developing their hand-eye co-ordination.

"Sharp pointed objects such as pens, nails, knives and scissors are the most common culprits but injuries from these objects can be prevented with supervision," Dr Crock says.

"Accidents tend to occur around the home, both out-

doors and indoors, with the hours between 4pm and 6pm being a common time for them to happen."

In contrast, just two or three girls are treated at the hospital annually for the same type of injuries.

The hospital's drop-off in girls with serious eye injuries has been matched by the rise in injured boys.



Geelong Advertiser

Tuesday 10/3/2009

Page: 7

Section: General News

Region: Geelong VIC Circulation: 25,777

Type: Regional

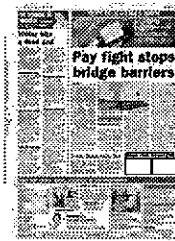
Size: 23.37 sq.cms.

Published: MTWTFS-

Brief: EAR

Boys' eye injuries rising

"BOYS will be boys" is why every year more of them are accidentally poked or stabbed in the eye with pens, nails, knives and scissors, says a medical expert. The Royal Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital says its caseload involving young boys has doubled in about a decade. Yet for young girls there has actually been a decline. The Melbourne hospital, handled five to six injured boys a year up to about 2000. In the four years to 2009, the annual figure increased to 10 or 11 boys



Boys risk eyesight

THE ratio of young boys treated for serious eye injuries has almost doubled in 10 years.

Knives, scissors, sticks, pens and nails are the most common causes, according to the Royal Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital.

It reports that boys aged 3-9 are most at risk.

Emergency department chief Dr Carmel Crock said in recent years the hospital had treated five times as many boys as girls, compared with even numbers a decade ago.



Illawarra Mercury

Tuesday 10/3/2009

Page: 9

Section: General News

Region: Wollongong NSW Circulation: 27,635

Type: Regional

Size: 67.23 sq.cms.

Published: MTWTFS-

Brief: EAR

Boys remain injury prone

"BOYS will be boys" is why every year more of them are accidentally poked or stabbed in the eye with pens, nails, knives and scissors, says a medical expert.

The Royal Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital says its caseload involving young boys has doubled in a decade.

The Melbourne hospital, which deals with serious eye injuries, handled five to six injured boys a year up to about 2000.

From 2005 to 2009, the annual figure rose to 10 or 11 boys facing the possibility of vision loss.

In one case on Christmas Day 2004, a six-year-old Melbourne boy was using scissors to open a present when he accidentally stabbed himself in the eye.

The hospital's emergency department director Dr Carmel Crock says boys needing treatment were generally three to nine years-old, an age group at added risk because they were still developing hand-eye coordination.

"Sharp pointed objects such as pens, nails, knives and scissors are the most common culprits but injuries from these objects can be prevented with supervision," Dr Crock says.

In contrast, just two or three girls are treated at the hospital annually for the same injuries.



Eye injuries on the rise for boys: expert

SYDNEY — “Boys will be boys” is why every year more of them are accidentally poked or stabbed in the eye with pens, nails, knives and scissors, says a medical expert.

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Yet for young girls there has actually been a decline.

The Melbourne hospital, which deals with the most serious eye injuries in Victoria, handled five to six injured boys a year up to about 2000.

In the four years to 2009, the annual figure increased to 10 or 11 boys who each faced the possibility of permanent vision loss.

In one case on Christmas Day 2004, a six-year-old Melbourne boy was using scissors to open a stubbornly wrapped present when he accidentally stabbed himself in the eye. The hospital's emergency department director Dr Carmel Crock says boys needing treatment were generally three to nine years-old, an age group at additional risk because they were still developing their hand-eye coordination.

FED: Boys with serious eye injury on rise

By Danny Rose, Medical Writer

SYDNEY, March 9 AAP - "Boys will be boys" is why every year more of them are accidentally poked or stabbed in the eye with pens, nails, knives and scissors, says a medical expert.

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"Sharp pointed objects such as pens, nails, knives and scissors are the most common culprits but injuries from these objects can be prevented with supervision," Dr Crock says.

"Accidents tend to occur around the home, both outdoors and indoors, with the hours between 4pm and 6pm being a common time for them to happen."

In contrast, just two or three girls are treated at the hospital annually for the same type of injuries, while in 2003 no girls were treated at the hospital.

The hospital's drop-off in girls with serious eye injuries has been matched by the rise in injured boys.



Manager of the hospital's orthoptics department and also President of the Orthoptic Association of Australia, Associate Professor Zoran Georgievski, says it was a case of "boys will be boys".

"They will take more risks and consequently end up in hospital more often ... we would prefer if this wasn't the case," he says.

March 9-13 is Orthoptic Awareness week.

AAP dr/it/de



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More boys injuring eyes: expert

Danny Rose
March 9, 2009 - 4:29PM

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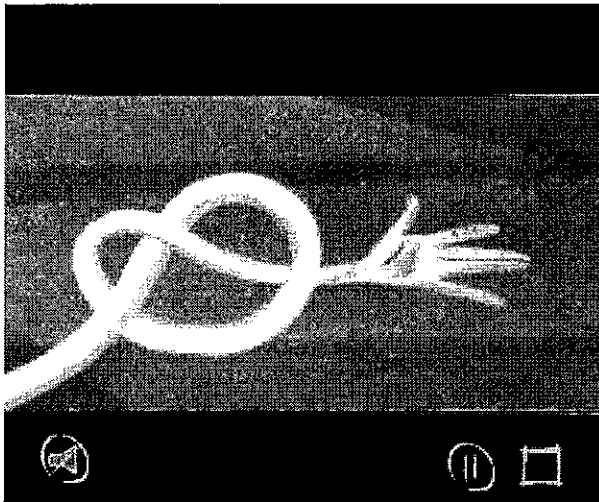
This story was found at: <http://news.smh.com.au/breaking-news-national/more-boys-injuring-eyes-expert-20090309-8t33.html>

Tuesday, 10 March 2009 | 06:48 AM

Domestic news

More boys injuring eyes: expert

9th March 2009, 14:01 WST



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AAP

 Have Your Say

► **Broadcast NewsAlert**

Attention: Kim Payne
Company: The Royal Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital

Summary ID: M00033980381

10/03/2009 - 04:01 PM

16:00 News

BAY FM (Geelong)
Compere: **Newsreader**
Station Ph: **03 5229 2939**

Young Austn boys are getting stabbed or poked in the **eye** more often. The **Royal Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital** says its caseload involving young boys has double in last decade.

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Duration: 0:17

Demographics

Demographics are not available as the media outlet has not commissioned audience research into this timeslot.

Summary ID: M00033979933

10/03/2009 - 04:01 PM

16:00 News

K-ROCK FM (Geelong)
Compere: **Newsreader**
Station Ph: **03 5223 1955**

Young Austn boys are reportedly getting stabbed or poked in the **eye** more often, according to the **Royal Victn Eye and Ear Hospital**.

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Duration: 0:15

Demographics

Demographics are not available as the media outlet has not commissioned audience research into this timeslot.

Summary ID: M00033977808

10/03/2009 - 01:02 PM

13:00 News

BAY FM (Geelong)
Compere: **Newsreader**
Station Ph: **03 5229 2939**

The **Royal victorian Eye and Ear Hospital** says young Australian boys are getting stabbed or poked in the **eye** more. It says its case load involving young boys has doubled in the past decade.

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Duration: 0:15

Demographics

Demographics are not available as the media outlet has not commissioned audience research into this timeslot.

Summary ID: M00033977087

10/03/2009 - 12:02 PM

12:00 News

K-ROCK FM (Geelong)

Compere: **Newsreader**

Station Ph: **03 5223 1955**

The **Royal Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital** has said that its caseload involving young boys has doubled in around a decade, with most cases involving pens, nails, knives and scissors.

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Duration: 0:16

Demographics

Demographics are not available as the media outlet has not commissioned audience research into this timeslot.

Summary ID: W00033976123

10/03/2009 - 07:23 AM

Breakfast

2LM (Lismore)

Compere: **Neil Marks**

Producer: **Mr Neil Marks 02 6624 2433**

Marks says that young Australian boys are having more **eye** accidents, with the **Royal Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital** saying its case load has doubled in a decade.

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Duration: 1:15

Demographics

Demographics are not available as the media outlet has not commissioned audience research into this timeslot.

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**MEDIA MONITORS****Transcript**

Station: 3AW Date: 10/03/2009
 Program: 06:00 NEWS Time: 06:03 AM
 Compere: NEWSREADER Summary ID: M00033969591
 Item: **NEW RESEARCH REVEALS YOUNG AUSTRALIAN BOYS ARE INCREASINGLY BEING STABBED OR POKED IN THE EYE.**

Demographics:	Male 16+	Female 16+	All people	ABs	GBs
	40000	48000	87000	19000	45000

NEWSREADER: New research reveals young Australian boys are increasingly being stabbed or poked in the eye.

The Royal Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital says its caseload involving young boys has doubled in the past decade, while for young girls there's been a significant decline.

Most of those cases involve pens, nails, knives and scissors.

The average age of boys coming in is three to nine years old. That age group at extra risk because they're still developing hand eye coordination.

* * END * *

TRANSCRIPT PRODUCED BY MEDIA MONITORS
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ADELAIDE	BRISBANE	CANBERRA	MELBOURNE	PERTH	SYDNEY
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ABs = Managers, administrators, professions. GBs = Grocery buyers.

► **Broadcast NewsAlert**

Attention: Kim Payne
Company: The Royal Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital

Summary ID: W00033972660

10/03/2009 - 07:05 AM

07:00 News

Hot Tomato (Gold Coast)
Compere: **Newsreader**
Station Ph: **07 5519 2200**

Demographics

Male 16+	8600
Female 16+	8100
All People	16700
ABs	4500
GBs	6100

The **Royal Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital** has treated double the number of boys for **eye** injuries than girls.

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Duration: 0:16

Summary ID: M00033969591

10/03/2009 - 06:03 AM

06:00 News

3AW (Melbourne)
Compere: **Newsreader**
Station Ph: **03 9243 2000**

Demographics

Male 16+	40000
Female 16+	48000
All People	87000
ABs	19000
GBs	45000

New research by the **Royal Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital** reveals that young Australian boys are increasingly being stabbed or poked in the **eye**.

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Duration: 0:27

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