Lions Eye Bank of Wisconsin asks that eye care be performed at the first available opportunity while always considering donor family needs. If the family is coming to be with their loved one, elevating the head, rinsing, and closing the eyes can significantly improve the outcome. After the family has left, the remaining steps can be performed.

**Postmortem Eye Care**
- Gently irrigate eyes with sterile saline.
- Close eyes carefully.
- Place sterile saline-soaked gauze squares (4x4’s) over the closed eyelids.
- Elevate head 30 degrees (pillow, head block).
- Transfer patient to morgue to cool ASAP. If no morgue is available, place light ice packs on closed eyes.
- Document time of cooling.

**Unconscious or Sedated Patient Eye Care**

At Risk for Ocular Complications
- Decreased blink rate of > every 5 seconds.
- Inability to open and shut eyes.
- Treat with water soluble ophthalmic ointment or saline/balanced salt solution (BSS).
- Rinse every 4-6 hours.

**Protect Eyes**
- When suctioning gastrointestinal or respiratory secretions.
- Keep face clean of patient’s own bacterial flora.

Please communicate any abnormal ocular findings when referring for potential donation.

877.233.2354

Thank you for your role in giving the gift of sight.

Lions Eye Bank of Wisconsin is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization passionate about restoring sight, eliminating curable blindness, and advocating for organ, eye, and tissue donation.

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