

## Eye Injuries in War: A Short Review

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With “Eye Injuries in War,” the editors and contributing authors present a work that is both scientifically demanding and deeply moving on a human level, a definitive reference in the field of war-related ophthalmology. From the very outset, it becomes clear that this is not merely a medical textbook, but also a contribution to addressing one of the most pressing challenges of modern conflicts: preserving eyesight under extreme conditions.

One is impressed with the book’s range, from the historical foundations of the study of war injuries to the eye, to modern injury patterns, to surgical innovations and to rehabilitation approaches. Particularly noteworthy is the integration of:

- Historical context (e.g. the development of military ophthalmology),
- Clinical practice (including concrete case studies),
- Technical and surgical procedures, and
- Interdisciplinary and humanitarian perspectives.

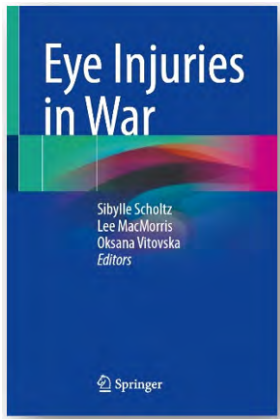
This allows the book to function both as a reference work and as a textbook.

The contributions are based on current scientific evidence and practical experience from real conflict zones in Ukraine. The presentation of modern injury patterns, such as those caused by explosive devices, shrapnel, or high-velocity projectiles, vividly demonstrates how much the demands on ophthalmology have evolved. The work is especially strong where it highlights the complexity of treatment: eye injuries rarely occur in isolation but are often part of severe multiple traumas, requiring close collaboration across disciplines.

Beyond the medical perspective, the book unfolds remarkable ethical and humanitarian depths. It makes clear that the loss of vision is far more than a physical impairment; it often entails the loss of autonomy, social participation, and a sense of one’s future. The inclusion of personal stories and firsthand accounts lends the work an emotional authenticity that is rarely found in scientific literature. As a result, the book becomes not only a professional resource but also a call for responsibility and solidarity. It stands out through its integration of science, practice, and ethics, combined with an international perspective shaped by an interdisciplinary authorship. Its high relevance for military medicine, emergency medicine, and humanitarian aid is matched by its vivid depiction of complex clinical situations.

“Eye Injuries in War” is an outstanding and highly topical specialist’s work that extends far beyond the boundaries of ophthalmology. It combines medical excellence with a humanitarian approach, thereby making an important contribution to the international discussion on

medical care in conflict zones. At once a textbook, a collection of experiences, and a warning, it is a work that not only imparts knowledge but also conveys a clear ethical position.



Sibylle Scholtz, Lee MacMorris, Oksana Vitovska (eds): Eye Injuries in War

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