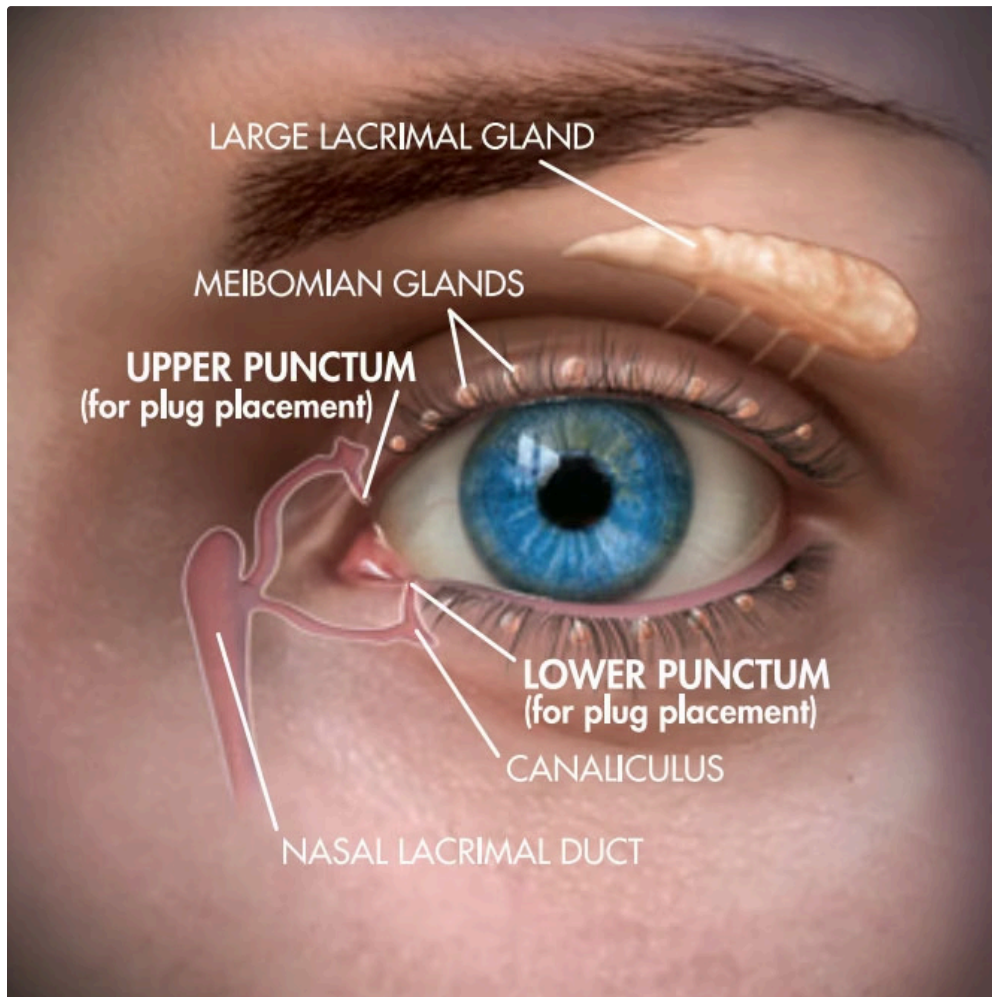


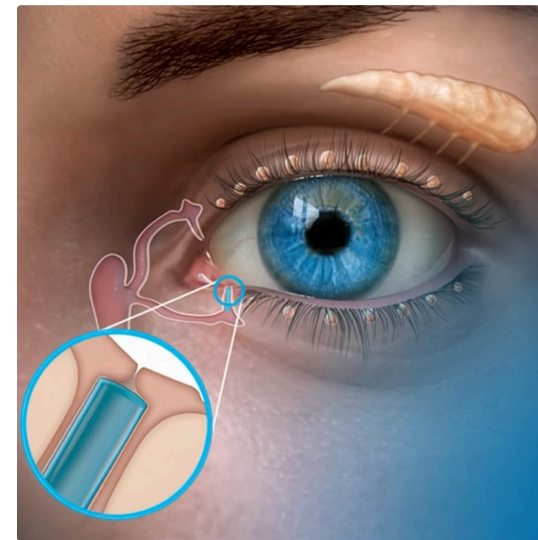
Anatomy of the Puncta & Lacrimal Drainage System



Essential Anatomic Landmarks

The **puncta** are small openings located on the medial eyelid margins. Both upper and lower puncta drain into their respective canaliculi.

Tears flow vertically through the **vertical canaliculi** (2 mm length) medially through the **horizontal canaliculi** (8–10 mm length), join at the common canaliculus, enter the **lacrimal sac**, and drain via the **nasolacrimal duct** into the inferior nasal meatus.



- ❑ **Clinical pearl:** The lower punctum drains approximately 70% of tear volume, making it the primary target for initial occlusion. Understanding this anatomy guides plug selection and troubleshooting drainage issues.