

Patient information

How to look after your wound after Oculoplastic surgery

Oculoplastic surgery refers to a branch of ophthalmology that deals with problems with the eyelids, tear duct and surrounding structures.

How will I feel afterwards?

You have had a local anaesthetic for corrective / reconstructive surgery and the area will be numb for a short time. A gentle throbbing sensation may be felt as the local anaesthetic wears off.

If you experience any pain, a simple painkiller such as paracetamol can be taken.

You may have eye drops or ointment to use at home. A qualified member of the nursing team will advise you.

Dependent upon the local anaesthetic used and the procedure that you are having done, you may be advised not to drive or operate machinery for the rest of the day.

What should I do when I go home?

If you have an eye dressing please leave it in place overnight and remove it the following morning unless otherwise instructed by your surgeon.

You should not drive a vehicle until any eye dressing has been removed and your vision has returned to normal. You may wish to clean the eyelids, if sticky, using cooled boiled water and a cotton bud or gauze provided. The operation site may become bruised or discoloured but will improve over seven to ten days.

Please apply ointment to the inside of the lower eyelid _____ times a day for ____ days.

Please apply ointment to the wound area _____ times a day for _____ days.

Will I have to come back to hospital?

You may have stitches that need to be removed. An outpatient appointment will be sent to you for review in the Eye Clinic.

You may need to be advised of your histology results in approximately 6 to 8 weeks time. If you have not been advised of your results by eight weeks then contact your General Practitioner.

What should I do if I have a problem?

If you develop problems, or need advice about your eye(s), please telephone (in the information please provide your hospital 'X' number (if known), Name, Date of Birth and a contact telephone number):

- Conquest Hospital Eye Clinic - Tel: (01424) 755255 Ext: 8971 during 9.00am and 5.00pm

- Eastbourne DGH Eye Clinic - Tel: (01323) 417400 Ext: 4118 during 9.00am to 5.00pm.

For Out of Hours contact you may leave an answerphone message on the telephone numbers above, and a member of staff will contact you the next working day. Otherwise if you feel you need to be seen urgently, please attend your local Emergency Department.

Consent

Although you consent for this treatment, you may at any time after that withdraw such consent. Please discuss this with your medical team.

Sources of information

E.g. specialist nurse, ward, consultant secretary, self-help group, national bodies or Web site addresses.

Important information

The information in this leaflet is for guidance purposes only and is not provided to replace professional clinical advice from a qualified practitioner.

Your comments

We are always interested to hear your views about our leaflets. If you have any comments, please contact the Patient Experience Team – Tel: (01323) 417400 Ext: 5860 or by email at: esh-tr.patientexperience@nhs.net.

Hand hygiene

The Trust is committed to maintaining a clean, safe environment. Hand hygiene is very important in controlling infection. Alcohol gel is widely available at the patient bedside for staff use and at the entrance of each clinical area for visitors to clean their hands before and after entering.

Other formats

If you require any of the Trust leaflets in alternative formats, such as large print or alternative languages, please contact the Equality and Human Rights Department.

Tel: (01424) 755255 Email: esh-tr.AccessibleInformation@nhs.net

After reading this information are there any questions you would like to ask? Please list below and ask your nurse or doctor.

Reference

The following clinicians have been consulted and agreed this patient information:

Mr Michael Wearne, Mr Manuel Saldana. Reviewed by Janine Robus

The Ophthalmology Department agreed this patient information leaflet

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Responsible clinician/author: Ophthalmology Department

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