

Entropion, Ectropion and Ptosis Surgery

ENTROPION is a lid condition in which the eyelid becomes lax and turns inwards. This causes the eyelashes to rub and irritate the eye making it red, uncomfortable and watery. The lower lid can be pulled back into the right position temporarily with a piece of tape placed between the lower lid and your cheek. An operation is needed to correct this condition permanently.

ECTROPION is a lid condition in which the eyelid becomes lax and turns outwards. This may make the eyes water. This is treated by an operation to tighten the eyelid.

There is a small risk that the conditions above may reoccur and require more than one operation. There is also a small risk of bleeding and infection.

PTOSIS (pronounced 'Toesis') in adults is a condition where the upper eyelid stretches and begins to droop. This can look unsightly and in severe cases can affect the eyesight. It is treated by an operation which tightens the muscle that opens your upper eyelid.

There is a small risk that following the operation the lid may not close properly or that the lid could still droop too much. This may require further surgery. There is a small risk of infection and bleeding. In extremely rare cases of severe bleeding, blindness can occur.

If an operation is planned, you will receive a letter informing you of a date and time to come to our Day Care Unit. The visit may last 3-4 hours.

BEFORE YOUR OPERATION

Do I take my normal medication?

Please stop **aspirin** 1 week prior to surgery with permission from your GP. If you take any medication to thin your blood e.g. **warfarin** as prescribed medication, please contact your GP two weeks before your operation for further instructions - **telephone 01392 406013**. Otherwise take your normal medication and bring them into hospital with you.

Can I eat and drink normally?

Yes. Please have breakfast before morning surgery and a light lunch before afternoon surgery.

Do I need to wear anything special?

Yes. Wear comfortable loose fitting clothes as you may be asked to change into a theatre gown. Also please wear flat comfortable shoes.

Will I have a local anaesthetic?

Yes. We will put some drops into your eye and an injection into the skin around the eye. This normally stings for about 30 seconds. The anaesthetic may last a few hours after the procedure.

AFTER YOUR OPERATION

Will there be any stitches?

This depends on the type of operation. They are often dissolving sutures. If you have stitches, we will tell you if and when they need removing.

Will I need eye drops after the operation?

Yes. You will be given a short course of either eye drops or ointment.

Will there be any bruising or swelling?

Yes. Cool packs applied to the wound are very helpful at reducing the swelling and bruising. Apply a cool pack i.e. frozen peas wrapped in a flannel or ice cubes in a plastic bag wrapped in a flannel for ten to fifteen minutes six times a day for the first two days. We also advise you to sleep with two extra pillows for a couple of nights after the operation which will also help to reduce any swelling. Mild bruising will gradually disappear over a week, severe bruising may take up to six weeks to clear.

Will I have any pain?

There may be some discomfort after surgery. Painkillers will be available for you to take home if required. Paracetamol can be taken. Please avoid taking aspirin or painkillers containing aspirin for the first 48 hours after the operation.

Will I be able to drive home after the operation?

No. You will need to arrange for someone to take you home as the affected eye may be padded and there may be some discomfort. It is also advisable to have a relative or carer to stay with you overnight after the operation.

When can I return to normal activities?

Within 24-48 hours of surgery. It is advisable to rest after the operation and avoid excessive bending and heavy lifting for the first 24 hours to prevent secondary bleeding. It is not advisable to use eye make-up for two weeks after surgery.

If you have any post operative concerns, please contact the Eye triage team on telephone 01392 402399.

The Trust cannot accept any responsibility for the accuracy of the information given if the leaflet is not used by RD&E staff undertaking procedures at the RD&E hospitals.

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