
Ophthalmology Department

Eyelid Surgery

You will be placed on our list to attend the Eye Unit for your eyelid surgery. We hope that this leaflet provides you with the information you need. If there is anything you wish to know, or you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call the Eye Unit on telephone number 01223 274411.

Before the operation

- You may wish to wash your hair before coming to the Eye Unit. After surgery your hair can be washed but do this with your head tilted backwards for about two weeks or until your eyelid has healed.
- You may eat and drink as normal on the day of your operation.
- Please take all medication as normal or as instructed. However, if you take **warfarin**, stop taking this three days before admission to reduce the risk of serious bleeding, which would complicate the surgery. **Ask your GP if they are happy for you to stop your warfarin and have your clotting status (INR) checked.**

If you are on **aspirin, clopidogrel (plavix) or any other blood thinning medication** instead of wafarin you will need to stop this ten days before admission. **Check that your General Practitioner is happy for you to do so.**

- Wear loose fitting clothing.
- Please do not wear any jewellery except wedding rings.
- Please do not wear any makeup or nail varnish.
- Please leave all unnecessary valuables at home.
- Please arrange for a friend or relative to take you home after your surgery as you will be given an eye pad and will be **unable to drive**.
- Please ensure that you have painkillers at home for use after your surgery (for example paracetamol or codeine, not aspirin or ibuprofen).

The day of the operation

Please report to the receptionist. A nurse will greet you and check you in. You will have your blood pressure and pulse taken. The nurse will be able to answer any questions you have. You will then be seen by a doctor who will explain your operation

and ask you to sign a consent form. You may then have a wait so please bring something to pass the time.

The operation

- You will not be required to change out of your own clothes.
- When the time comes for your operation you will be escorted into the theatre.
- Your operation will be performed under a local anaesthetic. Usually this involves eye drops and a small injection in your eyelid.
- You are required to lie flat and still during your operation. A nurse will be with you throughout your operation.

Cancellation of appointment

If for any reason you are unable to keep your appointment, please let us know as soon as possible by telephoning: 01223 274411.

After the operation

- You are likely to have an eye pad or dressing over your eye. You will be told how long this must be worn.
- The area around your eyelid may be swollen and bruised. If so, it may be useful to use ice packs after the dressing is removed to help reduce any swelling.
- After your operation the nurse will take you to the ward area where you will be offered a drink.
- Eye ointment may be required. If an ointment or drops are prescribed you will be given instructions on how to apply it to your eyelid.
- You will receive instructions and after care advice by the nurse on the ward. You will also be given a follow up clinic appointment.
- Please do not rub your eyelid. If you need to wipe around the eyelid always use a clean tissue.
- If you find it necessary to clean the eyelid you should use water that has been boiled then cooled. Using a clean piece of tissue or piece of lint gently wipe the eyelid working from the nose outwards, once only. Every time you wipe the eyelid please use a fresh tissue or piece of lint.
- Gently wash your face. Do not get your eyelid or dressing wet.
- As the local anaesthetic wears off you may find it necessary to take some painkillers (paracetamol or codeine).
- You may watch television or read as normal.
- Please avoid smoke filled environments.

Possible side effects

- Bleeding may occur. If this happens please apply gentle pressure with a clean dressing (you may use a clean handkerchief for this purpose).
- If your eyelid becomes sticky or increasingly painful, this may be a sign that the eyelid has become infected.

Should either of the above occur please contact the eye unit at Addenbrooke's Hospital on 01223 274411.

Follow up appointment

You will given a follow up appointment either at the time of your discharge or sent to you in the post.



It is against the law to smoke inside any building at either Addenbrooke's or the Rosie hospitals. Smoking is only allowed at the small number of purpose built smoking shelters on site. Please do not smoke anywhere else on site.

For advice on quitting, contact your GP or the NHS smoking helpline free, 0800 169 0 169

Please ask if you require this information in other languages, large print or audio format: 01223 216032 or patient.information@addenbrookes.nhs.uk

Polish

Informacje te można otrzymać w innych językach, w wersji dużym drukiem lub audio. Zamówienia prosimy składać pod numerem: 01223 216032 lub wysyłając e-mail: patient.information@addenbrookes.nhs.uk

Portuguese

Se precisar desta informação num outro idioma, em impressão de letras grandes ou formato áudio por favor telefone para o 01223 216032 ou envie uma mensagem para: patient.information@addenbrookes.nhs.uk

Russian

Если вам требуется эта информация на другом языке, крупным шрифтом или в аудиоформате, пожалуйста, обращайтесь по телефону 01223 216032 или на вебсайт patient.information@addenbrookes.nhs.uk

Cantonese

若你需要此信息的其他語言版本、大字體版或音頻格式，請致電 01223 216032 或發郵件到: patient.information@addenbrookes.nhs.uk

Turkish

Bu bilgiyi diger dillerde veya büyük baskılı ya da sesli formatta isterseniz lütfen su numaradan kontak kurun: 01223 216032 veya asagidaki adrese e-posta gönderin: patient.information@addenbrookes.nhs.uk

Bengali

এই তথ্য বাংলায়, বড় অক্ষরে বা অডিও টেপে পোতে চাইলে দয়া করে 01223 216032 নম্বরে ফোন করুন বা patient.information@addenbrookes.nhs.uk ঠিকানায় ই-মেইল করুন।

Document history

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