

Department of Ophthalmology

Intravitreal Injection for Macular Degeneration

Patient Discharge Advice

Wet macular degeneration (AMD) is caused by the growth of abnormal blood vessels under the retina at the back of the eye. These blood vessels can leak fluid which makes the retina swell causing blurred or distorted vision.

Intravitreal injections of ranibizumab (lucentis®) work by limiting the growth and leakage of these abnormal blood vessels. The aim of this treatment is to slow down your vision loss caused by wet macular degeneration (AMD).

Instructions following an intravitreal injection:

- There are no special precautions except to avoid rubbing the eye.
- Instil the antibiotic eyedrops as prescribed.
- You can instil the antibiotic eyedrops more frequently to lubricate your eyes and to alleviate any discomfort during the first few days if helpful.
- You can also take your normal painkillers to alleviate any discomfort during the first few days.

It is important that you keep the appointment arranged following your intravitreal injection in order to continue monitoring your condition.

Normal effects following an intravitreal injection:

- A subconjunctival haemorrhage (bloodshot eye) usually occurs at the injection site. This will gradually fade within 7 to 10 days.
- Your vision may become slightly more blurred immediately after the injection. There may also be some floaters in your vision.
- You may experience mild discomfort for a few days after the injection. This discomfort should be relieved by normal painkillers.

Warning symptoms following an intravitreal injection:

There is a very small risk of developing an infection in the eye (endophthalmitis) following an intravitreal injection. The warning symptoms of this complication are rapid onset of:

- Increasing eye pain
- Increasing redness of the eye
- Greatly decreased vision

You must contact the hospital immediately for advice if you develop these warning symptoms. It is very important to identify and treat this type of infection as quickly as possible. **Contact telephone number: 01223 245151**



Addenbrooke's is smoke-free. You cannot smoke 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

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

Polish

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

Portuguese

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

Russian

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

Cantonese

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Turkish

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Bengali

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Contact number	01223 217394
Published	May 2009
Review date	May 2011
Supersedes which document?	n/a
File name	Intravitreal_injection_for_mascular_degeneration
Version number	1
Ref	PIN2380