

# Removal of a Radio-active Plaque Implant on the Eye

## Patient Information

## Your Surgery

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The radioactive gold implant that is sutured to the outer surface of your eye will be removed under a General anesthetic. This procedure takes approximately 10 minutes.

## After Surgery

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### Dressings

Immediately after your operation you will have a gauze pad and a shield taped over your eye. This is changed either the evening after your surgery or the following day. After the first dressing change, your doctor will ask you to wear the shield or glasses during the day, and the shield at night to protect your eye. Your eye may feel scratchy, and will be red.



**Do not rub around or under the dressing.**

Drops or ointment will be used after the surgery. You may feel momentary discomfort when the drops are put in, but if this feeling does not go away; tell your doctor or nurse. Your eyelid will be swollen.

## Activity and Rest

You will wake in the recovery room but even when you return to the postoperative unit, you will remain very sleepy. **Do not try to get out of bed without help the first few times you get up.**

Even though you may be feeling well and have only a little eye discomfort remember that you have had surgery and an anaesthetic. Take things slowly.

Once you are fully awake, you may resume your usual activity, but be careful.

## Medications

- 1) Your doctor will prescribe three eye drops:
  - An antibiotic (prevent infection)
  - An anti-inflammatory (reduce swelling)
  - Pupil-dilating



These eye drop medications will be started in hospital and will be continued for 7–10 days.

- 2) Your doctor will prescribe medication to relieve any post-operative pain or nausea. Tell your nurse if you are uncomfortable.
- 3) Ice packs will be ordered to place on your eyelid for 5–10 minutes every hour while you are awake, and should be continued for 3–4 days after your surgery.

## How to Put in Eye Drops

Follow these steps carefully:

- 1) Wash your hands well.
- 2) Sit in a chair with your medication beside you.
- 3) Check your medication to make sure you have the correct drops for each eye. Shake the bottle. Remove the bottle cap.
- 4) Tilt your head backwards and pull your lower lid down toward the cheekbone. Your lower lid will be “cupped” and ready to receive the drops.
- 5) Try to avoid touching the tip of the bottle or tube on your eye or skin to prevent an infection in your medication.
- 6) Use your other hand to squeeze the ordered number of drops into the eye. Release the lower lid and gently close your eye for a few seconds.
- 7) Gently blot any excess medication from the eye area with a clean tissue or cotton ball.



If more than one medication is ordered for the same eye, wait 5 minutes before using the next medication. Always put in drops before ointment

## Care at Home

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- The decrease of tumour size is a gradual process and takes many months, even years.
- If visual improvement occurs, it may be slow.
- Check about your follow-up appointment with your doctor.

## Follow-Up Appointment

Your next appointment with Dr. \_\_\_\_\_

is on \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

## Additional Instructions:

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