

Patient information

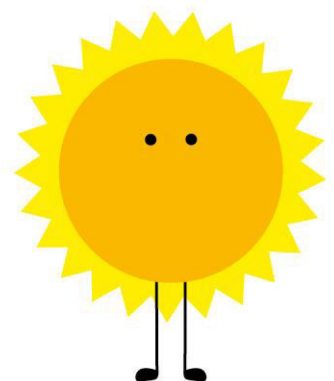
Information about eye drops for children

- Tropicamide
- Cyclopentolate
- Phenylephrine
- Proxymetacaine

Royal London Hospital

Contact details

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Young Barts Health

Introduction

This leaflet tells you about the eye drops used in the examination of your child's eyes.

Cyclopentolate, Tropicamide and Phenylephrine eye drops temporarily dilate (enlarge) the pupils of the eye by relaxing the muscles responsible for focusing. This allows the doctor or optometrist to examine the back of the eye and also accurately check your child's glasses prescription. Once the drops taken effect, we are able to see the retina and other structures inside the eye more easily.

Proxymetacaine is an anaesthetic eye drop which can sometimes be given to numb your child's eyes before putting in any other drops. It prevents the eyes from stinging. Proxymetacaine drops do sting a little but irritation of the eye is rare.

A member of staff will put the eye drops in by gently pulling down your child's lower eyelid and placing the drops inside the eye. Do try to prevent your child from rubbing their eye after the drops are administered.

Waiting for the drops to work

It can take 30-45 minutes for the eye drops to start working. If your child has darker eyes, it may take longer. Once the drops are administered, your child may feel a brief stinging sensation which only lasts for a few seconds. Your child will find that their vision will become blurred as the size of their pupils increases. They also may become more sensitive to bright lights which is why we advise to bring sunglasses or a cap to the appointment on sunny days.

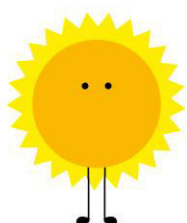
Some children may also find they have a dry mouth or may feel drowsy.

What are the other side-effects of the eye drops?

Other (not common) side-effects include:

- Brief stinging sensation
- Watering of the eyes
- Mild skin irritation/rash around the eyes
- Allergic reactions
- Excitability or Irritability

If your child complains of pain, or feels unwell, is seeing haloes in their vision (rings of light seen around a light source), please let the nurse know so we can help.

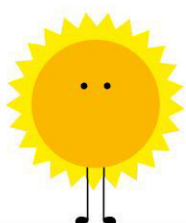


After you leave the hospital

Once the examination is over, you will be able to leave the hospital with your child. The effects of the eye drops will gradually wear off after 6 hours but can sometimes take up to 24-48 hours to fully wear off. During this time, your child may find it difficult to read and may be sensitive to light. Sunglasses and a cap can help with this on sunny days.

A bad reaction to the eye drops is rare. However, take your child to the A&E department immediately and explain that they have been given eye drops if any of the following occur.

- Severe pain
- Nausea and vomiting
- Haloes in the vision (bright, coloured circles of light)
- Increased heart rate



Large print and other languages

This information can be made available in alternative formats, such as easy read or large print, and may be available in alternative languages, upon request. For more information, speak to your clinical team.

এই তথ্যগুলো সহজে পড়া যায় অথবা বৃহৎ প্রিন্টের মত বিকল্প ফরম্যাটে পাওয়া যাবে, এবং অনুরোধে অন্য ভাষায়ও পাওয়া যেতে পারে। আরো তথ্যের জন্য আপনার ক্লিনিক্যাল টিমের সাথে কথা বলুন।

Na żądanie te informacje mogą zostać udostępnione w innych formatach, takich jak zapis większą czcionką lub łatwą do czytania, a także w innych językach. Aby uzyskać więcej informacji, porozmawiaj ze swoim zespołem specjalistów.

Macluumaadkaan waxaa loo heli karaa qaab kale, sida ugu akhrinta ugu fudud, ama far waa weyn, waxana laga yabaa in lagu heli luuqaado Kale, haddii la codsado. Wixii macluumaad dheeraad ah, kala hadal kooxda xarunta caafimaadka.

Bu bilgi, kolay okunurluk veya büyük baskılar gibi alternatif biçimlerde sunulabilir, ve talep üzerine Alternatif Dillerde sunulabilir. Daha fazla bilgi için klinik ekibinizle irtibata geçin.

یہ معلومات متبادل فارمیٹس میں دستیاب کی جا سکتی ہیں، جیسا کہ پڑھنے میں آسان یا بڑا پرنٹ اور درخواست پر متبادل زبانوں میں بھی دستیاب ہو سکتی ہیں۔ مزید معلومات کے لیے، اپنی کلینکل ٹیم سے بات کریں!

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Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS)

Please contact us if you need general information or advice about Trust services: www.bartshealth.nhs.uk/pals

Reference: BH/PIN/XXX

Publication date:

All our patient information leaflets are reviewed every three years.

