

# Insertion of a Stent for the treatment of Open Angle Glaucoma

Information for patients



## After your operation

Immediately after your operation, your eye will be covered by a protective plastic shield.

Eye drops are not usually required in your operated eye until the day after surgery. Any eye drops that you use in your other eye must be continued as normal.

The morning after your operation you can remove the protective eye shield and gently bathe your eye. The eye drops you will need to use in your operated eye will be different from the drops that you used prior to your operation.

Drops will need to be used for approximately 4 weeks after your operation.

Each time you attend the out-patient clinic, any changes to your eye drops, will be discussed with you. If you are running out of the drops, you must obtain a repeat prescription for them from your own GP.

## Post-operative visits

The aim of stent surgery is to lower the pressure in your eye, not to improve the vision. Your eye pressure will be checked in the clinic 1-2 weeks after your operation, and around one month after that.

It is very important that you attend all your clinic appointments and use your eye drops as prescribed.

## Will I still need to use my glaucoma eye drops?

Immediately after your operation your glaucoma eye drops to your operated eye only will be stopped.

## Activities after stent surgery

Initially after stent surgery you need to ensure that you do not bump, rub or press on your eye. This is important whilst your wound is healing and in order to reduce the risk of infection and injury.

There are no long-term restrictions following stent surgery. You may carry on your activities as normal.

It is normal for your vision to be blurred for several weeks after your operation, and for your eye to feel gritty and a little sore.

Do not rub your eye in the first week after your operation.

For the first week after surgery wear your glasses during the day and the plastic shield at night to protect your eye.

Try to avoid bending over at the waist, straining, and lifting heavy objects.

Avoid smoky or dusty places and forceful sneezing and coughing.

Try not to get water in your eye. For the first couple of weeks following surgery, wash your hair backwards over a sink and avoid irritants such as soap near your eye. Do not swim or use hot tubs for at least a month after your surgery.

Do not wear contact lenses for around 8 weeks.

Avoid applying makeup for 2 weeks after surgery.

## When can I return to work?

You will need to have at least two weeks off work. Please speak to your doctor about this before your surgery.

## When can I drive again?

Do not drive until after your first outpatient appointment, when this can be discussed with your doctor. It is your responsibility to make sure that you are safe and legal to drive. If you are not sure, then contact the DVLA and ask for advice.

## Patient Responsibilities

Contact us promptly if you notice:

- A very painful eye
- Discharge from your eye
- Eyelid swelling
- Loss of vision.

## Contact Information

**Mon – Fri 08.30-16.30**

**Eye Pavilion triage desk 0131 536 3751**

**Evening and weekends**

**E2 PAEP 0131 536 1172**

**OPD1 St Johns 01506 524286**

