

# Atropine Eye Drops

Information for Parents

Ophthalmology Department



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## Information for Parents

### INTRODUCTION:

Your child has had their vision checked by either a nurse or an orthoptist.

Now, to enable us to check the health of the inside of the eye and to test for glasses accurately, the pupil (the black spot in the centre of the eye) must be dilated (enlarged.) This will be done using eye drops.

The eye drop your child will be using is called **Atropine 1%**.

**Please let the doctor, orthoptist or nurse know if your child has reacted to any eye drops or ointments in the past.**

### HOW TO USE THE DROPS

- Please ensure you have washed your hands before and after using the eye drops.
- The drops should be used once daily for 3 days prior to the appointment but NOT on the day.
- The drops should be used in both eyes.
- Gently pull down the lower lid and tell your child to look up.

- Place a drop inside the lower lid of each eye. Try aiming for the white part of the eye as the drops may sting a little if they go directly on to the coloured part.
- It may be easier to put the drops in while your child is asleep.

## **IF YOUR CHILD GETS VERY DISTRESSED – AN ALTERNATIVE WAY OF PUTTING DROPS IN:**

- Lay your child flat on their back with eyes closed.
- Place a drop onto the side of the closed eyes nearest the nose.
- Ask your child to open their eyes or gently rub the eyelids so the drop enters the eye.

## **WHAT DO THE DROPS DO?**

- The pupil will enlarge.
- Your child may mention that things look blurred - it is advisable to inform their schoolteacher of this.
- Your child's eyes may be sensitive to bright light - a cap or sunglasses may help to reduce their symptoms.
- Once the drops have been instilled your child may become a little flushed. This is a normal side effect of the drops.
- As your child may feel dehydrated whilst using the drops, please ensure that he / she drinks plenty of water.

- The effects of the drops may last up to 14 days and are always temporary and produce no long term side effects.

## **STORAGE AND DISPOSAL**

- Keep the drops out of reach of children.
- Store them in a cool place.
- Dispose of the remainder of the drops safely at home, or bring them with you to your appointment.

## **PLEASE REMEMBER:**

- **The drops should only be used for the child undergoing the eye examination.**
- **Please do not use the drops if your child is unwell or has a slight temperature. It is best to call and rebook the appointment.**
- **The eye drops are a drug. If your child becomes severely flushed, irritable or dehydrated once you have used them this may indicate an allergy to this treatment. Stop using the drops immediately, contact your doctor and notify the eye clinic as soon as possible.**

## FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

### Orthoptic Department

Ashford Hospital	01784 884133
St. Peter's Hospital	01932 722146
Heart of Hounslow Health Centre	0203 7716112
Woking Community Hospital	01932 722627

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### Further Information

We endeavour to provide an excellent service at all times, but should you have any concerns please, in the first instance, raise these with the Matron, Senior Nurse or Manager on duty.

If they cannot resolve your concern, please contact our Patient Experience Team on 01932 723553 or email [asp-tr.patient.advice@nhs.net](mailto:asp-tr.patient.advice@nhs.net). If you remain concerned, the team can also advise upon how to make a formal complaint.

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**We can provide interpreters for a variety of languages, information in larger print or other formats (e.g. audio) - please call us on 01932 723553.**

**To use the Text Relay service, prefix all numbers with 18001.**

اگر نیاز به ترجمہ دارید، لطفاً با شماره 01932 723553 تماس بگیرید۔

ਜੇ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਤਰਜਮੇ ਦੀ ਲੋੜ ਹੈ ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਇਸ ਨੰਬਰ ਤੇ ਫੋਨ ਕਰੋ: 01932 723553

اگر آپ اس کا اردو زبان میں ترجمہ چاہتے ہیں، تو براؤکرم اس فون نمبر 01932 723553 پر رابطہ کریں

Se precisa de uma tradução por favor contacte: 01932 723553

আপনার অনুবাদের দরকার হলে এখানে যোগাযোগ করুন : 01932 723553

यदि आपको अनुवाद की जरूरत है तो कृपया इस नंबर पर फोन करें: 01932 723553

Jeżeli chcemy, aby te informacje w innym języku, proszę zadzwonić 01932 723553

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