Care after eye surgery



This sheet has general eye surgery guidelines for all types of eye surgery. Your child's doctor will talk with you about specific care for your child's type of eye surgery.

Giving medicines

Your child may have some discomfort after surgery.

- Give your child medicine for pain as advised by his doctor.
- Give your child any medicines, as prescribed by his doctor, for the full length of time prescribed.
- Wash your hands well with soap and water for at least 20 seconds before and after giving eye drops.

DO NOT:

- Stop giving eye drops or ointment because you think your child is better.
- Remove the eye patch to begin eye drops or ointment unless advised by your child's doctor.
- Let the top of the bottle touch your child's eyelids or eyelashes.
- Stop giving your child his antibiotic, even if he feels better. Keep giving it as prescribed by his doctor until it is all gone.

Activities after surgery

- If your child's eye is patched, keep the eye patch and shield on at all times, or as advised by his doctor.
- Keep water out of your child's eyes for 2 weeks.
- Your child should not swim in a pool or get dirty for 2 weeks.
- Your child may take baths when he goes home unless advised by your child's doctor.
- You may feed your child his regular diet unless a special diet is advised.
- Your child may return to normal activities when feeling better and the doctor says it is OK.

What else do I need to know?

- Keep the area around your child's eye clean and dry.
- Do not let your child rub or scratch his eye.
- Make and keep your child's follow-up visit as instructed.

When should I call the doctor?

Call your child's doctor **<u>right away</u>** if:

- He has a fever of 100.5°F or higher.
- He has pain not relieved with medicine prescribed by his doctor.
- He has increased drainage from his eye.
- He has increased redness, swelling or pain after the first day of surgery.
- You have any questions or concerns about how your child looks or feels.

This teaching sheet contains general information only. Talk with your child's doctor or a member of your child's healthcare team about specific care of your child.

In case of an urgent concern or emergency, call 911 or go to the nearest emergency department right away.