

## Surgery and Cancer Division – Ophthalmology

### Entropian and Ectropian Repair

#### Introduction

Your Ophthalmologist has recommended that you require **Entropian** or **Ectropian** surgery. These are both conditions that affect your eyelid. You will be provided with written information regarding your surgery when you attend the Eye Care Centre at Leighton Hospital. If you do not receive written information about your surgery, please contact the Eye Care Centre on 01270 278110.

#### Guidance for Patients

**Entropian** – where your eyelid turned in and causes your eyelashes to rub against the cornea (the clear, dome-shaped outer layer at the front of your eye).

**Ectropian** – where your eyelid turns out and does not touch your eye.

Both of these conditions can usually be treated by a minor operation. Your surgeon will assess you and advise if surgery is an appropriate treatment for you. These conditions are usually caused by aging and sometimes caused by scar tissue pulling your eyelid out of position. Only the lower lid is usually affected and these conditions can lead to irritation of your eye, leading to symptoms such as unsightly appearance, a watery eye, discomfort, dryness or redness. Entropian symptoms are usually more severe as the eyelashes can scratch the cornea, causing infection and scarring.

Prior to surgery a thorough medical preoperative assessment is carried out. The preoperative assessment assesses your fitness for surgery and will help us to identify potential medical risks which may need attention prior to surgery.

The operation is done in theatre and is most commonly carried out with local anaesthesia that is injected in your eyelid and local anaesthesia also given in the form of eye drops. The procedure normally takes 30-60 minutes. After surgery your eyelid should be in a better position and your symptoms should improve.

After the operation you will be transferred to the recovery area and then to the ward or daycase unit. You should be able to go home after a few hours. You may need a pad on your eye for a few days. Hold an ice-pack against your eyelid for up to 10 minutes, 3 to 4 times a day. It is common to have a watery eye and to feel grittiness in your eye for 1 to 2 days. Your surgeon will give you lubricating eye drops to help ease the discomfort.

#### How can I prepare for my surgery?

While you are waiting for your procedure it is important that you consider the following in the short term to support your well-being.

- If you smoke, stopping smoking now may reduce your risk of developing complications and will improve your long-term health.
- Try to maintain a healthy weight. You have a higher risk of developing complications with any surgery if you are overweight.

- Regular exercise should help to prepare you for the operation, help you to recover and improve your long-term health.
- If you have not had the coronavirus (Covid-19) vaccine, you may be at an increased risk of serious illness related to Covid-19 while you recover. Speak to your doctor or healthcare professional if you would like to have the vaccine.

## What should I do if my health is deteriorating?

If you feel you are becoming more unwell, **please contact your GP or NHS 111 for medical review in the first instance.** Your GP will be able to advise if this is something they can support with during your wait or they will be able to contact your Ophthalmologist to discuss their findings in more detail and determine a management plan.

## Contact Us

Admission Date - Please call the Ophthalmology Scheduling Team 01270 278110.

Emergency Ophthalmic Advice - Please call 01270 255141 and ask for Eye Triage.