

## Ophthalmology

# ILUVIEN implant

An ILUVIEN implant (190 micrograms) is used to treat:

- Diabetic macular oedema - accumulation of fluid at the macular the part of the eye that provides clear sharp vision. It is found in the centre portion of the retina.
- Macular oedema in posterior non-infectious uveitis - conditions whereby the body's defence mechanisms are attacking your own cells in the eyes causing inflammation and accumulation of fluid at the centre portion of the retina called the macular

### What is ILUVIEN?

ILUVIEN is a tiny implant containing a corticosteroid medicine called fluocinolone acetonide. Corticosteroids are medicines that can reduce inflammation and swelling in the body.



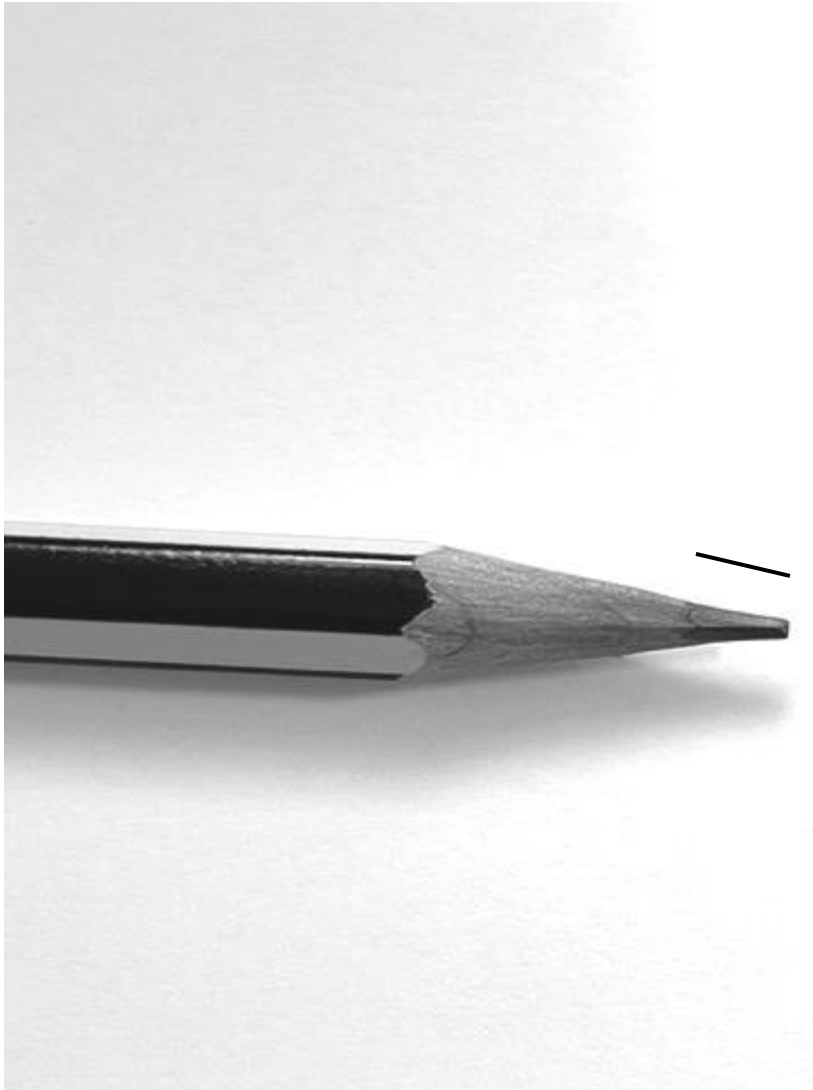


Image of an ILUVIEN implant compared to the tip of a pencil.

### **How does an ILUVIEN implant work?**

An ILUVIEN implant is given as a single injection into your eye.

An ILUVIEN implant then releases very small amounts of fluocinolone acetonide (a corticosteroid) for up to 3 years.

The release of corticosteroid helps to reduce the inflammation and swelling that builds up in your macula. An ILUVIEN implant can help to improve damaged vision or help prevent your vision from getting worse.

An improvement in vision can be seen as early as one week after treatment and could last for up to 3 years.

## Patient Information

An ILUVIEN implant will only be injected into one eye initially even if both of your eyes are affected by a condition. We only inject both eyes at the same time in rare cases.

### Your treatment

Before your injection, your eye specialist will wash your eye and they will instil antiseptic eye drops to reduce the risk of infection.

Your eye specialist will then give instil local anaesthetic eye drops. This is to minimise your pain or discomfort.

Your eye specialist will then inject the ILUVIEN implant into your eye in a single injection.

### After your treatment

Your eye specialist may ask you to use antibiotic eye drops after your treatment. It is very important that you follow your eye specialist's instructions as antibiotic eye drops are given to prevent eye infections.

You may experience temporary blurred vision after your treatment.

**Do not drive or operate machinery while you have blurred vision.**

You should only drive or operate machinery when your vision is no longer blurred.

ILUVIEN implants have been shown to have a beneficial effect on your vision for up to 3 years. Your eye specialist will be able to advise on any further treatment should you need it. They may also want to monitor you, checking for side effects that you may not notice yourself (e.g., increased pressure inside the eye).

### Side effects

Like all medicines, an ILUVIEN implant can cause side effects. just like other medicines.

Common side effects can include:

- redness, irritation, mild pain
- sensitivity to light
- floaters (floating spots in your vision)
- bleeding in the white part of your eye
- increased pressure inside the eye.

## Patient Information

Uncommon side effects can include:

- retinal detachment
- cataract (a clouding of your eye's natural lens which may require surgery)
- headaches
- endophthalmitis (severe infection which can lead to sight loss).

**Please contact your doctors immediately if you notice any of the following side effects:**

- increased eye pain or discomfort
- worsening redness of your eye
- flashing lights
- sudden increase in floaters
- partially blocked or impaired vision
- increased sensitivity to light

## Contact numbers

### University Hospital Coventry

Retinal Specialist Nurse, Sister Mann (Jas):

**024 7696 4000** (switchboard) and ask them to bleep **2828**

Macarthur Calica:

**024 7696 4000** (switchboard) and ask them to bleep **5836**

Mr Manjunatha and Mrs Mukherjee secretary: **024 7696 6496**

Mr Pagliarini secretary: **024 76 966497**

### Rugby St Cross

AMD injection co-ordinator: **01788 663338**

Diabetic injection co-ordinator: **01788 663992**

## Patient Information

### **Eye Clinic Liaison Officer:**

Sue Grewcock

University Hospital Coventry: Monday, Wednesday and Thursday

**07834147178** (please leave voicemail)

Rugby St Cross: Tuesday and Friday

**01788 663004**

# Emergency eye appointments: New booking system

If you have an urgent eye problem, you can now book an on-the-day telephone consultation via the Eye Emergency Referral Service (EERS).



Scan the QR code or visit [www.uhcw.nhs.uk](http://www.uhcw.nhs.uk) and search Eye Emergency Referral Service. You can book a telephone consultation via this link.

You will be spoken to by an expert clinician who will give you specialist advice on the next steps to take.

Please provide a phone number which you can be contacted on for the consultation. Please also be aware that you will be phoned as close to the allotted time as possible, although at busy times unfortunately there may be a delay.

**In the event that you feel you cannot wait to speak to someone, or do not have online access, then you may call 0247 696 4800.**

**This phone line is open 9am - 1pm; 1.30pm - 5pm (Monday - Friday, excluding bank holidays) and 9am - 12pm (Saturday).**

Please only attend the Eye Outpatient department if you have had a telephone consultation in advance and have been advised to attend.

In the event of an eye emergency out of hours, please attend the Minor Injuries Unit.

## Patient Information

The Trust has access to interpreting and translation services. If you need this information in another language or format, please contact 024 7696 6474 and we will do our best to meet your needs.

The Trust operates a smoke free policy.

### Did we get it right?

We would like you to tell us what you think about our services. This helps us make further improvements and recognise members of staff who provide a good service.

Have your say. Scan the QR code or visit:

[www.uhcw.nhs.uk/feedback](http://www.uhcw.nhs.uk/feedback)



#### Document History

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