

Ophthalmology

Pain after an eye injection

After the injection, expect your eye to be sore.

Why is your eye sore?

We use powerful povidone-iodine disinfectant eye drops to kill the germs in your eye before we inject. This is to reduce the risk of a nasty and very painful eye infection called endophthalmitis, which could lead to blindness and sometimes even loss of the eye.

Unfortunately, a thorough disinfection of the eye inevitably removes some of the thin layers of the front of the eye which results in pain and a gritty sensation.

Occasionally, a larger layer of the skin of the front of the eye may come off, causing severe pain, tearing and a swollen eye. This is called corneal abrasion and happens in approximately 1 in 200 injections. This may need attention of an ophthalmologist in eye casualty who will prescribe eye ointment and eye drops.

The abrasion may take a few days to heal. If you experience severe pain following an eye injection, you may require an urgent hospital admission to rule out a potentially blinding eye infection.

Alternative disinfectants to povidone-iodine can equally cause a sore eye, but these may not be as effective in preventing potentially blinding eye infections.



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 6627 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



Document History

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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 uhcw.nhs.uk and search Eye Emergency Referral Service. The link here will let you book a telephone consultation.



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).

In the event of an eye emergency out of hours, please attend the Minor Injuries Unit/Emergency Department. Please only attend the Eye Outpatient department if you have had a telephone consultation in advance and have been advised to attend.

Monday to Thursday: 8.30am – 4.30pm

Friday: 8.30am – 4.00pm

Saturday: 8.30am – 12.00noon

Outside these hours attend the UHCW Accident and Emergency department.