

Ophthalmology

Silicone oil removal

It has been explained to you in clinic that you need to have the silicone oil in your eye removed. Your appointment time and date will be confirmed by letter. This leaflet explains what will happen.

Why have the oil removed?

The silicone oil which was put in your eye as a treatment for your eye condition, needs to be removed. It cannot be left in your eye as it can cause long term problems such as raised pressure, changes to the front of your eye and cataracts. If any of these problems occur, we will carry out the necessary treatment. If a cataract is present in your eye, this can be removed at the same time as the surgery to remove the oil.

The surgery

University Hospitals Coventry and Warwickshire is a teaching hospital and as such has a responsibility to train surgeons of the future.

We cannot guarantee that your surgery will be performed by a particular surgeon. Surgery is carried out by consultants and other suitably skilled surgeons. Surgery is also carried out by surgeons in training, under the supervision of an experienced consultant.

It is performed as a day procedure, and you will usually go home on the same day.



Patient Information

A local anaesthetic is normally used, but this will be discussed with you in clinic.

After surgery

- Eye drops will have to be used for up to 4 weeks.
- Arrange for some one to be with you until you feel able to cope on your own.
- You will be **unable to drive** until you are able to read the new style number plate at 20 metres with both eyes open, and you are confident about your driving ability.
- Specific discharge instructions relating to your operation will be given to you before going home after your operation.

If you have any further queries or concerns, please contact Eye Casualty on **024 7696 6627**.

The Trust has access to interpreting and translation services. If you need this information in another language or format, please contact 024 7696 5922 and we will do our best to meet your needs.

The Trust operates a smoke free policy.

To give feedback on this leaflet please email feedback@uhcw.nhs.uk

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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 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 024 7696 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/Emergency Department.