

Discharge home:

We recommend that you contact the ward if you have any of the following issues. A follow up appointment letter will be sent out to you in the post.

If you have any problems or notice any of the following, please contact the ward for advise:

- Vision Problems.
- Uncontrollable pain (Pain not controlled with regular pain relief)
- If your child becomes unwell with a temperature and/or vomiting.

**Anything else which you are concerned with after this operation
Please contact your local children's ward.**

Whiston Hospital
Warrington Road,
Prescot, Merseyside, L35 5DR
Telephone: 0151 426 1600

St Helens Hospital
Marshalls Cross Road,
St Helens, Merseyside, WA9 3DA
Telephone: 01744 26633

Southport Hospital
Town Lane, Kew,
Southport, Merseyside,
PR8 6PN
Telephone: 01704 547 471

Ormskirk Hospital
Dicconson Way, Wigan Road,
Ormskirk, Lancashire, L39 2AZ
Telephone: 01695 577 111

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**Mersey and West Lancashire
Teaching Hospitals**
NHS Trust

Correction of a squint

If you need this leaflet in a different language or accessible format
please speak to a member of staff who can arrange it for you.

اگر به این بروشور به زبان دیگر یا در قالب دسترس پذیر نیاز دارید،
لطفاً با یکی از کارکنان صحبت کنید تا آن را برای شما تهیه کند.

Jeśli niniejsza ulotka ma być dostępna w innym języku lub formie,
proszę skontaktować się z członkiem personelu, który ją dla Państwa przygotowuje.

Dacă aveți nevoie de această broșură într-o altă limbă sau într-un format accesibil,
vă rog să discutați cu un membru al personalului să se ocupe
de acest lucru pentru dumneavoastră

如果您需要本传单的其他语言版本或无障碍格式，请联系工作人员为您安排。

إذا احتجت إلى هذه النشرة بلغة أخرى، أو بتنسيق
يسهل الوصول إليه، يرجى التحدث إلى أحد الموظفين لترتيب ذلك لك.

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Surgery to correct the squint:

Surgery for squint is usually performed to improve the appearance of eye alignment but sometimes it can also help the child use both eyes together, improving depth perception. Squint surgery involves the weakening or strengthening of one or more eye muscles, and can be performed on one or both eyes (although the squint can appear to be limited to one eye, squint surgery may need to be performed in both eyes).

Intended benefits of the procedure:

If the eyes are not focused properly, each eye will focus on a different object and send different signals to the brain. These two different images lead to confusion and may have either of two effects:

1. The child ignores the image from the affected eye and only sees the one image, so is losing depth perception.
2. The image is not ignored by either eye and double vision occurs.

By having the squint corrected your child's vision will improve and the cosmetic appearance is more pleasing.

Risks of the procedure:

Every operation carries a risk of complications, but this is very small. These complications will be discussed with you before the surgery whilst completing the consent form with the surgeon. This is the opportunity to ask the surgeon any questions that you may have regarding the operation. It is extremely common for the eyes to be both red and sore for two weeks following squint surgery. The drops you will be taking home as discharge medication, will soothe the eyes and reduce the inflammation (redness).

During the procedure:

We give your child a general anesthetic. This is a medicine that makes your child sleep and stops them feeling any pain during the procedure. **One parent/carer can accompany your child and stay with him/her.**

While your child is asleep with the general anaesthetic, several eye muscles are adjusted. These muscles are located on the sclera (the white of the eye), either on the inner (nose side) or outer (ear side) corner or under the lower lid. After adjustment of the muscles' strength, the muscles are sewn back on to the eye. Several dissolvable stitches will be present on the surface of the eye. Eye drops used during the operation might at first dilate the pupils unevenly.

Discomforts following the procedure:

After an anaesthetic your child could:

- ☐ Feel sick and vomit
- ☐ Have a headache
- ☐ Have a sore throat or feel dizzy

These effects are short lived. Your child can read, watch television and carry out daily activities. There may also be some pain after the operation. This can be relieved by giving your child some pain relieving medications such as children's paracetamol (Calpol) and or Ibuprofen. It is important that you read the dosing instructions on each bottle.

After Surgery (On the ward):

Your child may be sensitive to light for 24 hours. Your child's eye/eyes may appear bloodshot, your child may also have watery eyes. This is normal and will disappear in a few days. Once your child is fully awake, has eaten, drank and ideally passed urine he/she will be able to go home.

- Bathe eyes with cooled boiled water and clean cotton pads/gauze 3-4 times a day
- Stay off school for 10-14 days to allow the dissolvable stitches to heal
- No swimming, PE or contact sports for 4- 6 weeks due to risk of infection
- Avoid sand/glitter/face paint or dusty environments and other irritants around the eyes
- Do not rub eyes **and** give eye drops as directed.