



**Southport and
Ormskirk Hospital**
NHS Trust

PATIENT INFORMATION

Bandage Contact Lens

Your ophthalmologist has suggested you may benefit from the use of a bandage contact lens.

WHAT IS A BANDAGE CONTACT LENS?

A Bandage Contact Lens is a soft contact lens that covers and protects the surface of your eye from the mechanical rubbing of the blinking eyelids, thus allowing the eye surface to heal. It has no focusing power and is not intended to improve your vision. It often makes the eye feel more comfortable, although not always.

You may be aware of the lens when it's inserted and when you blink. No other preparation is required, it takes a few minutes to insert. The eye is rechecked for fitting of the lens and you go home after. If the sight in the other eye is poor, it may stop you doing regular activities like driving, swimming. The bandage contact lenses are left in place until your eye heals. They need to be replaced every 4 weeks, should your eye condition warrant longer term use. You will not be expected to handle the contact lens.

This is usually inserted by the optometrist or your attending ophthalmologist in the eye clinic. You are to wear it until your review appointment.

Please keep your planned follow ups and report any untoward symptoms.

You may wear eye makeup with the contact lens, however use non allergic makeup and avoid application too close to the lid margin. To remove makeup, wash your hands and then use eye makeup remover gently to wipe away the

makeup. Ensure you replace your make up regularly- at least every 3 months.

RISKS OF COMPLICATIONS OR SIDE EFFECTS AS A RESULT OF WEARING A BANDAGE CONTACT LENS

- Dry eye – you will be aware of your eye and it will feel dry particularly in the morning. It is safe to continue preservative free artificial eye drops to lubricate the eye when you go to bed and wake up or through the day as required or instructed by your doctor. Ensure your drops are preservative free as you can get build-up of preservatives over time which can increase irritation.
- Lens dislodged – occasionally, the lens may move or even fall out.
- Infection - continuous wear contact lens increases your risk of infection. Please maintain good hygiene. **Always clean your hands before instilling drops or touching the eye. Avoid swimming while wearing your contact lens.**

Contact us if your eye is red, sticky, and uncomfortable or your vision seems to be more blurred. If you find it painful or intolerable please contact us, it can be removed.

Eye department: 01704 705218 between 08:30-17:00

During your contact with us, it is important that you are happy with your care and treatment. Please speak to a member of staff and/or the ward/department Sister/Charge Nurse if you have questions or concerns.

MATRON

A Matron is also available during the hours of 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday. During these periods, ward/department staff can contact Matron to arrange to meet with you. Out of hours, a Senior Nurse can be contacted via the ward/department to deal with any concerns you may have.

INFECTION CONTROL REQUEST

Preventing infections is a crucial part of our patients' care. To ensure that our standards remain high our staff have regular infection prevention and control training and their practice is monitored in the workplace. We ask patients and visitors to assist us in preventing infections by cleaning their hands at regular intervals and informing staff of areas within the hospital that appear soiled.

As a patient there may be times that you are unsure whether a staff member has cleaned their hands; if in doubt please ask the staff member and they will be only too happy to put your mind at ease by cleaning their hands so that you can see them.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

Good hand hygiene

Avoid swimming

Continue with eye drops as instructed

CONTACT US IF YOU ARE CONCERNED

ANY CONDITION SPECIFIC DANGER SIGNALS TO LOOK OUT FOR:

CONTACT INFORMATION IF YOU ARE WORRIED ABOUT YOUR CONDITION

- Your own GP

OTHER USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS/CONTACTS:

NHS 111

Stop Smoking Helpline (Sefton) – 0300 100 1000

Stop Smoking Helpline (West Lancashire) – 0800 328 6297

www.reviewofcontactlenses.com/article/the-case-forbandagecontactlens

**Please call 01704 704714 if you need
this leaflet in an alternative format**

Southport and Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust

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FOR APPOINTMENTS

Telephone (01695) 656680
Email soh-tr.appointments@nhs.net

Please remember to complete the **attached** *Friends and Family Test*.

Alternatively, you can complete the *Friends and Family Test* on-line by going to:
southportandormskirk.nhs.uk/FFT

Thank you

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