



Southport and  
Ormskirk Hospital  
NHS Trust

# **PATIENT INFORMATION**

## **Post Operative Information Following Squint**

Children's Unit



- The ointment or eye drops prescribed by your consultant are to be used in the eye which has been operated on. They help the eye to heal and will prevent infection.
- To instill the ointment or the drops, ask your child to look upwards, gently pull down the lower lid and squeeze the ointment along the inner side of the eye. Do not worry if more than one drop goes in, the extra will run out.
- If the eye becomes sticky, bathe it with cooled, previously boiled water, using a clean piece of cotton wool for each wipe of the eye.
- Continue to use the ointment or drops until you return to see the Orthoptist and doctor. A further supply can be obtained from your GP.
- It is important to bring your child back for the outpatient appointment as arranged.
- Your child should not feel a lot of pain. Please give the painkillers as instructed by the nurse.
- The eye(s) may look slightly swollen and may look as if there is a slight squint still present. This may take a few weeks to settle completely.
- Being out in very cold or windy weather will make the eye look redder but each day should see an improvement in the redness.
- The eyes may be sensitive to light and, therefore, dark glasses may be worn in sunny weather. However, normal lighting or sunny weather cannot harm the eye.
- The eyes may water more than usual. "Pink" tears are normal for a short period following surgery.
- Be careful not to get shampoo in the operated eye.
- There should be no swimming or contact sports, ie boxing, karate, for at least 2 – 3 weeks.
- Normal activities, such as reading, playing, watching television or doing homework, are fine.
- Children should be encouraged to wear their glasses after the operation.

- We advise that the child stay away from nursery or school for 1 week.
- Fizzy drinks and fatty foods are not recommended as they could make the child feel nauseous and sick post anaesthetic.
- If a child vomits once or twice, keep the child starved for one hour and then slowly give soft drinks and light food. If the child continues to vomit, take the child to the Children's Accident & Emergency Department at Ormskirk Hospital.

If you have any concerns or require further advice, **PLEASE** contact the Eye/ENT Unit, Monday to Friday, 8.30 am to 5.00 pm on (01704) 703426.

You can also contact the Children's Ward at Ormskirk Hospital for advice outside these hours on (01695) 656912.

In an emergency, please attend the Children's Accident & Emergency Department at Ormskirk Hospital, Wigan Lane, Ormskirk.

**NOTES**

**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 any questions or concerns.**

## **MATRON**

A Matron is also available during the hours of 9.00 to 5.00 pm 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**

### **ANY CONDITION SPECIFIC DANGER SIGNALS TO LOOK OUT FOR:**

### **CONTACT INFORMATION IF YOU ARE WORRIED ABOUT YOUR CONDITION**

Your own GP –

Children's A&E, ODGH – 01695 656674

Children's Ward, ODGH – 01695 656912

### **OTHER USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS/CONTACTS:**

NHS 111

Stop Smoking Helpline (Sefton) - 0300 100 1000

Stop Smoking Helpline (West Lancashire) - 0800 328 6297

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

**Southport and Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust**

Ormskirk & District General Hospital  
Wigan Road, Ormskirk, L39 2AZ  
Tel: (01695) 577111

Southport & Formby District General Hospital  
Town Lane, Kew, Southport, PR8 6PN  
Tel: (01704) 547471

**FOR APPOINTMENTS**

Telephone (01695) 656680  
Email [soh-tr.appointments@nhs.net](mailto: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](https://southportandormskirk.nhs.uk/FFT)

**Thank you**

Owner: Amanda Collinson  
Ref: 09/42  
Version: 5  
Reviewed: May 2022  
Next Review: May 2025