

Patient information factsheet

Having an eye operation

We have given you this factsheet because you have been placed on our waiting list for an eye operation. Please read it carefully and keep it somewhere safe. If you have any further questions or worries, please contact us.

Before your operation

You must be medically fit in order for your operation to go ahead. If any of the points below apply to you, we may need to carry out a pre-operative assessment to check your health and medical history. This will help reduce the likelihood of your procedure having to be postponed or cancelled on the day.

Please telephone the eye short stay unit on **023 8120 6595** before your operation if:

- **you have high blood pressure**
- **you have diabetes and have high blood sugar levels**
It's really important to keep your blood pressure and blood sugar levels under control. Please see your GP one to two weeks before your operation date if you feel your treatment is not effective.
- **you have an active infection or are taking antibiotic treatment**
We may have to postpone your operation if you have recently had an infection or have been prescribed antibiotic treatment.
- **you have cold, cough or flu-like symptoms**
- **you have had a stroke or heart attack (within the last six months)**
If you have had a heart attack or a stroke within the last six months, it is unlikely that your operation will be able to go ahead as planned.
- **your eyes are inflamed (red and sore)**
- **you take anticoagulant medication (blood thinning medication)**
If you are taking blood thinning medication (warfarin), please bring your most recent blood test results with you when you come for your operation. If you haven't had a blood test recently, please book an appointment to have one with your GP or nurse a few days before your operation date.

Your medication

Please make sure you take your usual medication on the day of your operation (unless we have told you otherwise).

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Contact lenses

We recommend not using contact lenses one week before your pre-operative assessment and one week before your operation.

Driving and support

Do not drive to your appointment. Please ask a relative or friend to bring you to hospital and to accompany you home after your operation. They won't need to stay with you while you are here, but will need to be available when it is time for you to go home.

If you are going to be sedated during your operation (given medication that makes you feel sleepy and relaxes you), please make sure you have a responsible adult to stay with you at home overnight.

After your operation

Support at home

After your eye operation, we may give you drops or ointment to use. If you have trouble putting drops into your eyes, please ask a member of your family or a friend to help.

Contact us

Inpatient and day case surgery admissions team

Telephone: **023 8120 8734**

Eye short stay unit

Telephone: **023 8120 6595**

For a translation of this document, or a version in another format such as easy read, large print, Braille or audio, please telephone **023 8120 4688**.

For help preparing for your visit, arranging an interpreter or accessing the hospital, please visit **www.uhs.nhs.uk/additionalneeds**