Ophthalmology Department

Atropine Eye Drops before a Glasses Test

Your child has been recommended to have a test for glasses using Atropine eye drops. Below are some frequently asked questions and their answers.

What is Atropine?

Atropine works by relaxing the focussing muscles of the eye and also enlarges the pupils. This allows accurate testing for glasses and examination of the back of the eyes.

Your child is likely to feel their vision is blurred and they may be more sensitive to light than usual. The drops take three days to work fully and several days to wear off once stopped.

How do I get the atropine prescription?

All prescriptions for atropine eye drops are obtained from the Eye clinic and usually collected from the hospital pharmacy. This needs to be at least four days before the eye test appointment in order to use the drops correctly.

How should I administer the atropine drops?

Please ensure you wash your hands before and after instilling eye drops. The drops need to be put in once a day, in both eyes, **for the three days** immediately before your child's next appointment.
Try to use just one drop per eye. Wipe away any excess medication to ensure this cannot be swallowed.

Are there any side effects?

The use of atropine eye drops can occasionally result in side effects, which vary from person to person.

These include:

- Fever/Temperature
- Dry mouth/difficulty swallowing
- Abnormal increase or decrease in heart rate
- Skin rash
- Restlessness
- Hallucinations

Please ensure you read the information leaflet included in the box with your eye drops.
If your child suffers any unwanted side effects please **STOP** using the eye drops and contact the eye clinic on 01484 355085 or the A&E department.

How do I store the eye drops?

Please ensure you store the Atropine eye drops upright, below 25°C in a safe and dry place away from strong sunlight.

It is essential that you keep them well out of the reach of children.

They are poisonous if swallowed.
If you suspect that this might have happened, take your child to the nearest A&E department immediately.

If you have any comments about this leaflet or the service you have received you can contact :

Head Orthoptist

Orthoptic Department
Acre Mills Outpatient Department HUDDERSFIELD
Telephone (01484) 343237

Orthoptic Department
Calderdale Royal Hospital HALIFAX
Telephone (01422) 222218

www.cht.nhs.uk

If you would like this information in another format or language contact the above.

Potřebujete-li tyto informace v jiném formátu nebo jazyce, obraťte se prosím na výše uvedené oddělení

Jeżeli są Państwo zainteresowani otrzymaniem tych informacji w innym formacie lub wersji językowej, prosimy skontaktować się z nami, korzystając z ww. danych kontaktowych

ਜੇ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਇਸ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਪਾਰੂਪ ਜਾਂ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿੱਚ ਲੈਣਾ ਚਾਹੁੰਦੇ ਹੋ, ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਉਪਰੋਕਤ ਵਿਭਾਗ ਵਿੱਚ ਸਾਡੇ ਨਾਲ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰੋ।

اگر آپ کو یہ معلومات کسی اور فارمیٹ یا زبان میں درکار ہوں، تو برائے مہربانی مندرجہ بالا شعبے میں ہم سے رابطہ کریں.

"إذا احتجت الحصول على هذه المعلومة بشكل مغاير أو مترجمة إلى لغة مختلفة فيرجى منك الاتصال بالقسم المذكور أعلاه"