

Ophthalmology Department

YAG Laser Capsulotomy

This leaflet offers guidance and information to those patients undergoing YAG Laser Capsulotomy treatment.

The lens of your eye is held in a thin clear lining called the capsular bag. During cataract surgery, the natural lens is removed from the capsular bag after opening a "window" in the front part of it and replaced with a clear plastic lens. Over time in some patients the remaining capsule behind the plastic lens can thicken resulting in blurred vision. This condition is called posterior capsular opacification (PCO).





After cataract surgery, scar tissue has formed behind the lens implant



Laser treatment removes the scar tissue

YAG laser capsulotomy is a type of laser treatment that is used to make a hole in this capsule to help you see better.

The treatment is routinely done as an out-patient procedure and involves no surgical cuts.

Will I be able to drive home?

No, you will not be able to drive home following treatment due to the eye drops used that will temporarily dilate your pupils and blur your vision. It is ideal to bring a relative/friend with you if possible.

Benefits and possible risks

The benefit of having YAG laser capsulotomy is to make your vision clearer.

YAG laser capsulotomy is a very safe procedure; however like anything in medicine, there are some risks. The risks, which are rare, include raised pressure within the eye, inflammation, accumulation of fluid within the retina, which may need further treatment and in very rare cases retinal detachment which may require surgery. You may also experience increased floaters within the eye but these will settle after a few weeks.

Your appointment

If the circumstances allow, the doctor might do your procedure on the same day, otherwise an appointment for the treatment will be sent to you via the booking office.

The laser procedure

On arrival on the day of the procedure, you will have eye drops to dilate your pupils and anaesthetic eye drops just before treatment.

You will be asked to sit in a chair and rest your chin on the chin rest of the laser machine.

A contact lens will be placed on the surface of your eye. The contact lens focuses the laser, helps keeping the eye still and keeps the eyelids apart so you don't have to think about keeping your eyes open. You continue to blink as normal. The procedure is painless, but it could be slightly uncomfortable because of the bright light of the laser machine, this takes about 5 minutes.

You might be given eye drops to take home to prevent inflammation.

Post-operative instructions

There are no restrictions following laser capsulotomy. Carry on with all your normal daily activities.

If I have any problems who do I contact?

If you experience severe floaters and flashing lights, loss of vision or pain in the eye please contact us immediately on the numbers supplied below:

Ophthalmology Department Telephone: 01484 355085

Out of Hours and weekends ring the main switchboard on 01484 342000 or 01422 357171 and ask to speak to the eye doctor on-call.

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

Ophthalmology Department

Telephone: 01484 355085

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

ਰ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਪ੍ਰਾਰੂਪ ਜਾਂ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿੱਚ ਲੈਣਾ ਚਾਹੁੰਦੇ ਹੋ, ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਉਪਰੋਕਤ ਵਿਭਾਗ ਵਿੱਚ ਸਾਡੇ ਨਾਲ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰੋ।

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

SMOKEFREE We are a smoke free Trust. If you need help to quit yorkshiresmokefree.nhs.uk can help

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