

Eyelid Surgery

Ophthalmology Clinic

4480 Oak Street, Vancouver, BC V6H 3V4
604-875-2040 Fax: 604-875-3561
www.bcchildrens.ca

What to expect after surgery

Pain

- Your child might be uncomfortable in the first 2 days after surgery.
- The effects of the anesthetic your child received will wear off after 4-6 hours. Your child may take acetaminophen (Tylenol) syrup or tablets appropriate for their age for discomfort but AVOID Aspirin and ibuprofen (Motrin or Advil) as these can promote bleeding.
- Use cold compresses every half hour for 10 minutes on the same day of surgery until bedtime (or as much as your child will allow). This helps reduce swelling and pain.

Wound Care

- If your child is wearing an eye patch, remove it the next day or as directed by surgeon.
- If your child is wearing an eye shield, this can be used at bedtime to protect the eye for the first two nights.
- Swelling and bruising of the eyelid may worsen in the first 3 days after surgery before reducing. If it continues to worsen after 3 days, or if the lid is swollen shut or the skin becomes more swollen and red, contact your surgeon.
- It is normal to have some bleeding or oozing from the suture line for the first 24 hours after surgery. Maintain light pressure and cold compresses Place a towel or absorbent pad on the pillow for the first 48 hours in case of blood seepage.
- Avoid tightly squeezing the lids.
- Avoid rubbing the lids.

- If the sutures are not dissolving sutures, your doctor will discuss the timing of removal.
- Apply the medication as prescribed by your child's surgeon.
- ***Always wash your hands before and after caring for your surgical site.***

Activity

- Avoid strenuous physical activity.
- Avoid contact lens wear for 2 weeks.
- Do not go to public baths or swimming pools for 2 weeks following surgery.
- Your child may shower their body but do not get the eyelids wet; assist them in washing hair with handheld shower only for the first week.
- Fresh air will not hurt the eyes but avoid dust and wind.



When to See Your Child's Doctor/ Go to the Emergency If...

- There is significant discharge from the eye or the wound.
- There is any increased eye/eyelid pain or redness after 48 hours.
- Child complains of vision loss.
- There are signs of infection such as increased pain, increased eye or eyelid swelling after day 3 or fever greater than 38.0C for more than 3 days.
- Your child vomits for more than 24 hours after the surgery.



Eyelid Surgery

Ophthalmology Clinic

4480 Oak Street, Vancouver, BC V6H 3V4
604-875-2040 Fax: 604-875-3561
www.bcchildrens.ca

Additional Instructions:

Contact Information

- After hours, phone the Ophthalmology resident on call: 604-875-2161, ask for "Ophthalmology ON CALL".
- If there is an emergency and you cannot contact your surgeon's office, please call 9-1-1 or go to the emergency department at BC Children's Hospital.

Follow up

- You may already have a follow-up appointment booked with your child's surgeon. If not, please contact their office, at your earliest convenience, for your appointment.