

Retina 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 for the first few days or feel a pricking sensation in the corner of the eye. This is usually mild. You can give your child acetaminophen (Tylenol) or ibuprofen (Advil).

Wound Care

- The post-operative eye will be covered with a pad and shield for protection. Keep the patch on until your child's visit with your surgeon, generally the morning after the surgery.
- Start the post-op drops, as prescribed by your surgeon, when the patch comes off, the morning after the surgery. When more than one eye drop has been prescribed, and they are to be taken at the same time, allow a few minutes between one drop and the next one.
- Your child may be instructed to be in a certain position after surgery. Your surgeon will advise you of this.
- Cleansing of your child's eye should be done using a clean face cloth or make-up removal pad or 2 x 2 gauze with warm tap water. Use a gentle wiping motion rather than pressure.
- You may notice a small amount of bleeding, which can occur up to 2-3 weeks post-surgery.
- Avoid rubbing the eyes.

- ***Always wash your hands before and after caring for your surgical site.***

Activity

- After surgery, your child should avoid heavy lifting, straining or vigorous activity for 1 week.
- Your child may shower their body but do not get water in the eye. Assist them in washing the hair with a hand held shower for 1 week.
- Your child should not go swimming for 4 weeks after surgery.
- Your child may read, watch television or "use their eyes", in a normal way, without fear of injuring them.



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

- There is significant discharge from the eye.
- There is any increased eye/eyelid pain or redness after 48 hours.
- Child complains of vision loss, black floaters or shadows.
- 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.



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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 surgeon. This is usually the day after the surgery. If not, please contact them at your earliest convenience, for your appointment.
- Remember to bring your child's glasses (if they have them) and post op drops to your appointment.