

Tear Duct 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

- There may be a little blood in the tears or blood from the nose. This should clear within 24-48 hours. If a tube was inserted, your surgeon will let you know. You may see it in the inside corner of your child's eye.
- Avoid rubbing the eyes.
- Apply the drops or ointment, as prescribed by your surgeon.
- **Always wash your hands before and after caring for your surgical site.**

Activity

- The day after surgery, your child may resume normal activities, if they feel ready.
- There is no restriction on hair washing or swimming.



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.

Additional Instructions:



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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.



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.