

Why has my child been prescribed Atropine?

Atropine eye drops are used to improve the vision in an eye with poor sight. This is sometimes known as "lazy eye". The drops blur the vision of the better eye which enables the weaker eye to be used so that vision may improve.

What are the effects of Atropine drops?

Atropine dilates the pupil (makes it larger) and also stops the eye focusing properly so that the vision is blurred.

How often should I use the eye drops?

Put ONE drop of Atropine, every SATURDAY and SUNDAY into the better eye.

Continue with the drops until you and your child see the orthoptist at their next appointment.

How long do the effects last?

Atropine will cause blurred vision which can last up to 7 days or more, even when drops are stopped. The pupil may remain dilated for up to 14 days.

How should I put the drops in?

- Wash both your own and your child's hands before and after putting the drops in.
- Gently pull down the lower lid of the better eye.
- Put one drop of the Atropine into the area between the eyeball and the lower lid.

Press gently on the inner corner of the eye for 1 minute to avoid the solution draining away into the nose.

It may be easier to put the eye drop in while your child is asleep.



IT IS IMPORTANT that **ALL** appointments are attended when using atropine drops.

The drops **MUST** be stopped if an appointment is missed.

Are there any side effects?

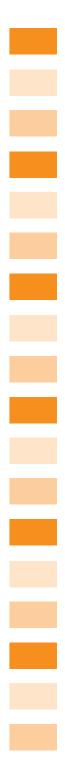
- It will make the dilated eye sensitive to bright light wearing a sunhat may help.
- The child may feel a little discomfort when initially used.
- If your child's eyes become red and sore this may be an allergic reaction and you should stop the treatment and seek medical advice.
- General symptoms such as a dry mouth, flushed appearance, dry skin/rash, nausea/vomiting, and constipation may also occur. These symptoms are rare, however if they do occur you should;

Stop the treatment immediately

Seek medical advice. Either contact the Orthoptic Dept on 01274 364175 or alternatively contact your GP.

Further Information

- Warning: Atropine is poisonous if taken orally, please store safely.
- Do not use Atropine that is past its expiry date.
- Do not use Atropine if the bottle has been opened for 4 weeks.
- Store the Atropine upright in a dry place below 25°C and away from direct sunlight.



No Smoking Policy

Bradford Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust is a smoke-free organisation. You are not permitted to smoke or use e-cigarettes in any of the hospital buildings or grounds.

Contact Information

Bradford Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust The Orthoptic Department Eye Outpatients Department Bradford Royal Infirmary Duckworth Lane Bradford BD9 6RI

If there are any concerns or enquires please contact the **Orthoptic Department** on 01274 364175 Monday - Friday: 9am- 4.30pm

People with hearing and speech difficulties

You can contact us using the Relay UK app. Textphone users will need to dial 18001 01274 365942.

If you need this information in another format or language, please ask a member of staff to arrange this for you.

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