



About squint surgery in children

K \ Uh]g'Ugei]b#

The squint may be present all or only some of the time. It may be in one eye only, both or may alternate between the two eyes.

When your child is diagnosed with a squint, glasses or patching may be necessary. Sometimes surgery is needed.

K \ Uh]g'h Y'U]a 'cZgi f[Yfn#

GdYWU`dfYdUfUhcbg

Your child should have nothing to eat from midnight the night before, but may have one small glass of either water or squash up to 6.30 am on the morning of the operation.

<ck`k j``a mW j`X`ZY`Uzhfk UfXg3

Remember: these complications are detailed for your information the vast majority of people have no significant problems.

8 cYg]hia UHYf]ZH Y'gei]bh]g' bchlf YUHX3

Not all squints need an operation but a squint should **always** be treated, as:

your child will not grow out of the squint

if left, the sight will get worse in the affected eye.

5 ZHYfWUfY

Pain relief

Any pain is usually relieved by giving paracetamol eg Calpol or ibuprofen. Remember do not give more than the stated dose and do not give medicine containing aspirin to children under 16 years of age.

Eye drops

Eye drops will be prescribed to help keep the eye clean and to prevent infection. Before you go home, the nurse will show you how to give the drops and we will give you an information leaflet on this.

Cleaning the eyes

Do not touch the eyes but remove the secretions around the eye using boiled cooled water and the sterile gauze provided. If a sticky yellow or green discharge appears, contact the

At your two week follow up appointment, the orthoptist will let you know whether your child is ready to do these activities again.

What to do if you are concerned

Each day after the surgery, the eye(s) should be less sticky, less gritty and look less red. It should become more red, more sticky or more painful after the surgery, then this may be a sign that there is a problem. If this happens call 01271 322411 and we will arrange to review your child.

Child

Squint surgery is only a stage in treatment and not the end of treatment. Although the squint may appear much improved after surgery, it is important to keep regular follow up appointments as further orthoptic treatment may be necessary.

Before leaving the Day Surgery Unit, you will be given a two week follow up appointment with the orthoptist and the ophthalmologist.

Useful contacts

Contact numbers:

01271 322466 Eye Clinic Reception

01271 322469 Orthoptic Department

01271 322455 Day Surgery Unit

Useful website:

British and Irish Orthoptic Society
www.orthoptics.org.uk

Squint Clinic
www.squintclinic.com

PALS

The Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) ensures that the NHS listens to patients, relatives and the public. For more information, please contact PALS on 01271 322411 or visit www.pals.nhs.uk

Have your say

Northern Devon Healthcare NHS Trust aims to provide high quality services. However, please tell us when something could be improved. If you have a comment or compliment about a service or treatment, please raise your comments with a member of the staff or the PALS team in the first instance.

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