

PATIENT INFORMATION

Cyclopentolate 1% eye drops for home instillation

Why have you provided me with eye drops?

Instilling the eye drops at home will help to minimize the length of time you will have to wait for your next appointment.

They may also be given if your child becomes very distressed having the eye drops instilled in the hospital.

The eye drops will allow us to examine the inside of your child's eyes and measure whether glasses are needed.

Important – if your child has a temperature on the day of their clinic appointment, please do not use the drops and call the booking office to reschedule their appointment.

What does cyclopentolate do?

Cyclopentolate has two effects when instilled in the eyes:

- **Dilates the pupil** (makes the black dot in the middle of the eye larger)
- **Stops the eye from focussing** properly which blurs the child's near (close up) vision.

How do I store the eye drops?

The drops should be kept at room temperature and must be kept out of reach of children.

The drops must be used within expiration date stated on packaging; do not use after they have expired.

How should I instil the eye drops?

The drops should be instilled approximately 40 minutes before your clinic appointment.

1. Wash your hands.
2. Removed the dropper (minim) from its overwrap.
3. Your child should be lying or sitting down with face tilted upwards towards the ceiling.
4. Gently pull down the lower eyelid of the eye with your finger and, without allowing the dropper to touch the outside of the surface of the eye, instil one drop of cyclopentolate into the outside corner of both eyes. It is normal for the drops to sting for a few seconds when initially instilled.
5. Wash your hands after installation.
6. The drops may take up to 30-40 minutes to fully work.
7. If you are unsure if the drop has gone in, it is safe to repeat the instillation.

Side effects

Your child may be more sensitive to light. They may want to avoid bright sunlight or wish to wear a cap / sunglasses.

There may be a temporary stinging when the drops are first instilled.

Blurred vision may last for a few hours post instillation and the pupils may remain dilated for up to 24 hours. On rare occasions this might last up to 2 days.

Rare side effects include an increase in the pressure in the eye and allergic reactions. If there are any concerns, please contact the orthoptic department.

If you need to speak to the orthoptist, please contact:

Orthoptic Department, Eye Department, Level 2 Outpatients, Torbay Hospital, Lowes Bridge, Torquay TQ2 7AA

Tel: (01803) 654442