

PATIENT INFORMATION

Iritis

(Anterior Uveitis)

What is Iritis?-

It is an inflammation within the eye, predominantly of the iris or coloured part of the eye. It is not infectious and can occur in both eyes. Iritis can last for several weeks or even months depending on the severity of the attack. Usually once you have had Iritis, it will come back at a later stage, however some people only get it once.

Causes of Iritis:-

In many cases the cause is unknown, although about a third of people who suffer from Iritis have a tendency towards inflammatory conditions in other parts of the body e.g. Arthritis.

Symptoms of Iritis:-

- Pain ranging from aching discomfort to severe pain.
- Redness of the eye.
- Sensitivity to light.
- Watering of the eye.
- Blurring of vision.
- Small or odd-shaped pupil.

Treatment:-

Treatment will be in the form of eye drops. This will include some dilating drops which make the pupil of the eye larger than normal and prevent the iris sticking to the lens of the eye. The drops also help to relieve any pain or discomfort.

Eye ointment may be prescribed at night.

NORMAL PUPIL SIZE



DILATED PUPIL SIZE



The dilating drops may blur your vision, particularly for reading, and increase your sensitivity to light. Dark glasses can be worn for your own comfort.

Steroid drops and ointment are used to reduce inflammation. Iritis can recur and early treatment is recommended to prevent a severe attack. It is our aim to give you the best possible healthcare.

Therefore, if you should develop a recurrence of **any** of the listed symptoms, do not delay, please contact the Eye Department within working hours so that the Ophthalmic Casualty Doctor can arrange to see you.

Monday-Friday 9am – 5pm

01803 655088

Out of hours /Weekends/Bank Holidays

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The Eye Clinic is situated in Zone A, in the Outpatient Department on Level 2. From the Eye Clinic entrance follow signs to Eye Clinic. Please report to Eye Clinic Reception when you arrive.

Eye Clinic
Outpatient Level 2
Torbay Hospital
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Devon TQ2 6LE

For further assistance or to receive this information in a different format, please contact the department which created this leaflet.