

Undergoing Cyclodiode Laser Treatment

What is Cyclodiode Laser Treatment?

Cyclodiode Laser Treatment is used in the treatment of Glaucoma that is difficult to control. The laser is applied to the layer of cells on the muscle that moves the lens in the eye (ciliary body), which reduces the production of fluid (aqueous humour) and keeps the pressure low.

Why am I having this treatment?

- This would have already been explained to you in clinic. Treatments for Glaucoma aim to lower the pressure inside the eye. Fluid (aqueous humour) is produced inside the eye by the ciliary body. The fluid drains mainly through a structure called the trabecular meshwork. The pressure in the eye is measured in units of mmHg. The normal pressure in the eye is between 12-21 mmHg. If for any reason the outflow of the fluid (aqueous humour) is obstructed the pressure can rise and Glaucoma may occur.
- Glaucoma can be treated medically (drops), surgically or with lasers. In most cases treatment usually starts with eye drops. If this is not effective than either laser or surgery will be considered.

What is the benefit of Cyclodiode laser treatment?

- The treatment is particularly useful for patients with painful glaucoma in non seeing eyes, who previously needed multiple eye drops to control the pain and pressure in the eye.
- With this laser treatment, usually you will become free of pain and should be able to reduce or completely stop your eye drops.
- Laser treatment usually takes approximately ten minutes.

How is the treatment performed?

The procedure is usually performed as a day case in an operating theatre under local anaesthetic. Just before the procedure you will be given eye drops and an injection to numb the eye. You must lie reasonably still during the treatment.

Complications of the local anaesthetic include bruising and very rarely perforation of the eye with the injection needle.

A laser probe is placed on the surface of the eye and pulses of laser energy are passed through the eye wall to reach the surface of the ciliary body causing small burns.

Repeated application of laser may be required.

If you require this information in an alternative language or format (such as Braille, audiotape or large print), please ask the staff who are looking after you.