

Cyclopentolate Eye Drops

Information for parents, relatives and carers

Eye Clinic
Harrogate District Hospital
Lancaster Park Road
Harrogate HG2 7SX
Tel: (01423) 55 3450

You have been given eye drops called Cyclopentolate Hydrochloride (1%), to put into your child's eyes on the day of their 'refraction test' with our Optometrist.

Date & time of refraction test:.....

Please keep drops out of reach of children, in a cool place, away from direct light.

What do the drops do?

The drops relax the eye's focussing muscles and enlarge the central pupil.

What are the side effects?

Vision becomes blurred and dislike of bright light increases – it would be nice to offer your child a hat or a pair of sunglasses to use after the drops. Very occasionally, drops can also cause flushing of the skin, please report any concerns on arrival in the clinic.

Your child can go back to school or nursery after their appointment, but, you need to inform the teacher that they have had drops (as their vision will remain more blurry for several hours).

Turn over the page:
for details on how and when to use the drops.

How do I put the drops in?

Please remember to wash your hands before and after putting the drops in

- With your child leaning back or lying down
- Ask them to look up at the ceiling
- **Place ONE drop into each eye**
- As long as the drop lands somewhere between the lids, it will usually work
- Discourage eye rubbing immediately after drops, as it can reduce absorption.

The drops sting for a few seconds, but this wears off very quickly – you can try counting from 1 to 10 with your child until the ‘fizzy’ sensation subsides.

When do I put the drops in?

As a guide, **we suggest using the eye drops at least 1 hour before the appointment.** They are effective after 30 minutes usually and remain effective for several hours.



After 10 minutes, if the central black part has not changed in size in one or both eyes, try putting in a second drop in whilst at home.

Please bring the used / unused eye drop ‘pipette’ with you to the clinic for safe disposal.

What if I am unable to put the drops in?

**If eye drops instilled correctly – arrive at your appointment time.
If eye drops cannot be instilled correctly, come 30 minutes early.**

On arrival, please inform the optometrist that the drops have NOT been put in, they will arrange for this to be done.

What if my child’s appointment is postponed?

If the date of the refraction appointment is changed or postponed, please double check the eye drops expiry date on the box. You can ring us, a week or so before, to request collection of more drops if required.