

Information for Patients Undergoing Eyelid Surgery

Before surgery

Anticoagulants

All anticoagulants should be stopped prior to surgery. If you are regularly taking Aspirin, Warfarin, Clopidogrel, Rivaroxiban or any other anticoagulant medicine it will need to be stopped to prevent excessive bruising or bleeding. When you need to stop the medication depends on what you are taking.

Warfarin is usually stopped 3 days prior to surgery and an INR test is performed on the day of surgery to ensure that the clotting rate is satisfactory. Your GP/Physician will be informed that the surgery is taking place and will advise as to whether the medication can safely be stopped. Do not stop the Warfarin until you have been advised that it is safe to do so.

Aspirin should be stopped 2 weeks before surgery because it has a long lasting effect of 'thinning the blood'. In the majority of cases it is perfectly safe to temporarily stop the Aspirin for this time but if you are in any doubt, please consult your GP.

Clopidogrel should be stopped for 1 week before surgery.

Rivaroxiban, Apixaban and Edoxaban should be stopped 1 day before your surgery

If you take any other anticoagulant medication, please consult your GP for further advice. If you are in any doubt about the safety of stopping your medications, please discuss with your GP/Physician. I would also be very happy to advise.

Ladies

Please ensure that all make up and foundation has been removed on the day of surgery

After Surgery

The eyes will be padded with a firm dressing after surgery. If you have had both sides operated on, the dressings will be removed on the ward an hour or two after surgery.

For patients who have only had one side operated on, the dressing should be removed the morning after surgery unless otherwise advised. The eyelid may look bruised and a little swollen. The vision may be blurred due to ointment that has been put into the eye. This will improve over the following few hours.

If there is a discharge around the wounds, it may be cleaned away gently using sterile water and cotton wool/swab. There may also be a small amount of mucus in the eye and this can also be wiped away gently.

If you have been given some eye drops, please start to use them as soon as the pad is off.

Your stitches will be removed at about 1 week after your operation. You will be able to discuss your progress at this visit.

- Do take life gently for the first few days
- Drive as soon as you feel happy to do so.

- Do not worry if the lid is not how you would like immediately. It is likely to settle with time.
- Do take life gently over the first few days.
- Do not strain or take heavy exercise over the first week.
- Do not swim for three weeks.

Emergency contact for Mr Sandy is best via Hampshire Clinic switchboard on 01256 357111
Alternatively, the on call eye doctor at Frimley Park on 01276 604604 can help

