

Procedure Information

Surgical Correction of Trichiasis (Ingrowing Eyelashes)

Introduction

Trichiasis is the eyelashes turn inwards and rub against the front of the eye causing irritation. The eye may be red, sore and watery. Vision may be blurred. Corneal infection, scarring and blindness may occur in chronic untreated conditions. There are many reasons of trichiasis. It may be caused by injuries to the lid such as burns or by previous eye operation.

For mild cases, lubricating eye drops, repeated epilation of the trichiasis and laser treatment may relieve the conditions. For severe or refractory cases, surgical correction can permanently remove the trichiasis. Please discuss with your doctor for the better option plan and treatment.

Outcomes

Ingrowing eyelashes will be removed. This procedure is help to prevent of eye infection which related to trichiasis. Whereas, the lashes sometime grow again in the same area and follow up treatment may be needed.

Procedures

1. This procedure is performed under local anaesthesia;
2. The eyelid is cleaned with an iodine-containing antiseptic solution;
3. The doctor may use a microscope or magnifying spectacles to find the troublesome lashes;
4. A fine wire is threaded down the lash root and the radio waves activated;
5. Antibiotic ointment is put in the eye;
6. Wound will be padded on the affected eye.

Possible Risks and Complications

1. Recurrence, regrowing or deterioration of disease
2. Scarring or infection
3. Failure or over correction
4. Damage to the cornea
5. Burn or blindness from laser or electric current

** The risks listed above are in general terms and the possibility of complications is not exhaustive. Please understand that even though all operations are carried out with utmost professionalism and care this does not rule out the possibility of complications arising. In the event of peripheral organ damage or post-operative haemorrhage or leakage, further operations may be required.

Pre-procedure Preparations

1. Good hygiene can prevent infection.
2. The procedure and possible complications will be explained by the doctor and a consent form must be signed prior to the procedure.
3. Please inform the doctor and nurse all your past medical history, previous surgical operations, current medication and any complication with drug or anaesthesia. Please inform doctor if you are taking medications that affect blood coagulation such as Aspirin, Warfarin, Xarelto or Pradaxa, nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) such as ibuprofen, naproxen and Chinese medication.
4. Please change into a surgical gown and removing your contact lenses if any. Do not put creams, lotions, or makeup on the face or around the eyes.
5. Please empty your bladder before the procedure.

Post-procedure Instructions and Advices on Discharge

1. You should allow several days for the swelling to resolve completely.
2. Please use typical antibiotics as prescribed by your doctor.
3. Good hygiene, especially eye and hand hygiene can reduce the risk of infection.
4. Immediately consult your doctor or return to hospital for professional attention in the event of acute eye symptoms like severe eye pain or blurring of vision or any other unusual symptoms etc.
5. Any follow-up consultations should be attended as scheduled.

Should there be any enquiries or concerns, please consult the attending doctor.

Under the professional care of the doctor, you will gradually recover. We wish you all the best during your treatment and recovery.

If you have any questions after reading the entire leaflet, please write them down in the spaces provided in order for the doctor to further follow-up.

Compiled by Union Hospital Operating Theatre (OT) Governance Committee

The above information is for reference only, please enquire your physician for details
Our Hospital reserves the RIGHT to amend any information in this leaflet without prior notification