



Procedure Information

Insertion of Lacrimal Plug

Introduction

Lacrimal plugs are tiny medical devices (smaller than a rice grain) that are inserted into the tear ducts to prevent excessive drainage of tears. It helps effectively in lubricating eyes.

Outcomes

Lacrimal plugs can prevent chronic drying of the eyes when eye drops do not relieve the symptoms.

Procedures

1. The procedure can be performed under local or without anaesthesia.
2. A lacrimal plug may be inserted into the upper lids, lower lids or both.
3. At first, the doctor examines the puncta to determine the suitable type and size of lacrimal plugs that can be used; an instrument is used to dilate the puncta to facilitate insertion of the plugs.
4. Lacrimal plugs are then inserted by using a disposable device.

Possible Risks and Complications

1. Allergic reaction
2. Infection of eyelids
3. Infective conjunctivitis
4. Watery eyes
5. Extra tissue formation
6. Displacement or inadvertent removal of the lacrimal plugs
7. Dislodge or lost of the rigid or semi-permanent lacrimal plugs
8. Migration of the lacrimal plug outside the tear ducts (less common)

** The risks listed above are in general terms and the possibility of complications is not exhaustive. Please understand that even though all procedures are carried out with utmost professionalism and care, this does not rule out the possibility of complications arising.

Pre-procedure Preparations

The procedure and possible complications will be explained by the doctor and a consent form must be signed prior to the procedure.

Post-procedure Instructions

1. Minor discomfort is normal for a few hours following of the procedure.
2. Normal activities can be resumed immediately after the procedure.
3. If you have any eye discomfort or infection with abnormal discharge such as purulent from eyes, please contact the doctor for possible removal or replacement of the punctual plugs.
4. 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

