

## Information for Patients

# Information for parents following your child's Corneal Transplant

**After your child's corneal transplant it is important that you follow these instructions.**

The eye shield should be worn **at all times** day and night for the first four weeks to protect your child's eye and to discourage any rubbing of the eye.

Your child should be off school for approximately four weeks following their surgery. Please check with the consultant or eye doctor before sending your child back to school.

It is very important to attend the hospital for regular appointments in the first few months following your child's surgery. Failure to attend these appointments could put your child's sight at risk.

Your child should not go swimming or play contact sports, for a minimum of six months following surgery. Contact sports should be avoided at all times to prevent risk of injury to the grafted eye. Please check with your consultant or eye doctor before your child restarts these activities.

Antibiotic and steroid drops will be given to be used at home. The eye drops are very important and will be quite frequent at first, and then the frequency will be reduced gradually. The drops will help to prevent infection and try to prevent any rejection of the graft tissue.

You will need to bathe your child's eye to keep it clean and the nurses on the ward or in clinic will show you how to do this.

Your child's eye might feel gritty, be light sensitive and water a lot for the first two weeks. The eyelids could also be swollen. This is all normal and will reduce as the stitches settle. Pain relief from a mild pain relief medication, for example paracetamol, might ease the discomfort. Sunglasses or peaked hats can be of benefit during this time.

If you have any concerns or your child experiences any of the following please contact the staff listed below:

- Red eye.
- Any discharge.
- Swollen eyelid.
- Cloudiness of the graft.
- Loose stitches.
- Pain that is not relieved by mild pain relief medication.

Mr Biswas' secretary (0161) 276 5565 Monday – Friday 9.00 am – 4.00 pm.  
Corneal Sister, Debbie Morley (0161) 701 4819 Monday – Friday 8.00 am – 5.00 pm answerphone available.

Paediatric nurse practitioner Lynn McKenzie on 07659592641 available Monday – Friday 8.00 am – 5.00 pm.

Emergency Eye Department (0161) 276 5599 or 5597 8.00 am – 9.00 pm every day.

In the event that none of the above numbers are answered, please contact staff on Ward 55 on (0161) 276 5512 available for advice 24 hours a day.