

Manchester Royal Eye Hospital General Ophthalmology Services

## **Information for Patients**

## **Important Info about Your Eye Drops**

The doctors and nurses will tell you about your eye medication including how often it needs to be used and for how long. You should tell the doctor about any other medicines you are taking.



- A nurse will be available to show you how to put your eye drops in safely.
- Always wash your hands before and after you put your drops in. This is to help prevent infection.
- Avoid touching any part of your eye with the dropper to avoid contamination of the eye drops or injury to your eye. Make sure the dropper lid is placed on a clean surface.
- Hold your head back with the dropper bottle in one hand and with the fingers of the other hand gently pull the lower eye lid to form a gap.
- Squeeze the dropper bottle so that one drop goes into the gap between the eyeball and the lower eyelid. You might find that the drops sting, this





is normal. If you have difficulties squeezing or holding the bottle steady, ask your nurse and we can provide drop aides to better support you.

- Close your eye gently and keep it closed for a slow count of 60. This helps the drops to work.
- Wipe away any liquid that did not go into the eye with a clean tissue.
- If you are having more than one type of drop they will be labelled A, B, C, etc. This is the order they should be used in. Leave at least 3 minutes between each drop.
- Replace bottle lid immediately after use and store the drops as instructed.
- Keep your eye clean. If the lids are sticky, clean them using cotton wool balls and cooled boiled water.
- If you lose or run out of your drops before the end of your treatment get more from your General Practitioner.
- It is important you don't wait until your drops have completely run out before asking for more, as there may be a delay in getting a top-up.
- Once opened the drops can be kept for 4 weeks and then must be thrown away.
- Should you have any major concerns about your eye drops, please contact a member of pharmacy staff on (0161) 701 4302 Monday Friday 9.00am 5.00pm.



