

Information for Patients

General Anaesthetic or Local Anaesthetic with Sedation

This leaflet contains important information to help you prepare for your anaesthetic, please read it carefully.

There are two types of anaesthetic that you could have:

1. **A general anaesthetic** which gives a state of controlled unconsciousness and is essential for some operations. You are unconscious and will feel nothing.
2. **A local anaesthetic combined with sedation** which numbs the area that is to be operated on and makes you feel drowsy and mentally relaxed during the operation.

The choice of anaesthetic will be discussed with you by your ophthalmologist (eye doctor).

You are required to meet the following points in order for you to have your surgery as a day case patient when having a general anaesthetic or local anaesthetic with sedation.

- If your surgery is scheduled for a morning theatre list you should have nothing to eat (including sweets or gum) after 2.00 am. You may have water up until 6.30 am.
- If your surgery is scheduled for an afternoon theatre list you should have nothing to eat (including sweets or gum) after 7.30 am. You may have water up until 11.30 am.
- Please refer to your admissions letter for your theatre time.
- On the day of your surgery it is very important that you have a responsible adult to accompany you home following your operation.

- You must travel home by car or taxi and not on public transport for your own comfort and safety. You must not drive yourself.
- You must have a responsible adult to stay with you overnight on the day of your operation.

You might feel tired and drowsy for a few days after your operation. It is therefore advisable that for at least 48 hours following your surgery you do not:

- Drink alcohol
- Operate machinery
- Drive
- Smoke
- Sign important documents

You might wish to bring some toiletry items with you for example toothpaste, toothbrush, soap and face towel or facial wipes as you will be given the opportunity to refresh yourself following your surgery.

If you require any further information please contact Eye Clinic J on (0161) 276 5603 or (0161) 276 5442 Monday-Friday 7.30 am-8.00 pm.

If your problem is urgent and the department above is closed or you are unable to get an answer, please telephone Ward 55 via the hospital switchboard (0161) 276 1234 available 24 hours every day.