

## Information for Patients

# Use and Care of your Artificial Eye

**It is very important to wash your hands thoroughly before inserting or removing the artificial eye.**

### Insertion

1. Wash hands thoroughly.
2. Look downwards.
3. Lift the upper eyelid and gently push the prosthesis upwards under the upper eyelid and hold in position.
4. Look straight ahead and position the lower eyelid over the lower edge of the prosthesis.

### Removal

Use the plastic extractor provided to remove the prosthesis using the following procedure:

1. Wash hands thoroughly.
2. Touch the prosthesis with extractor tip.
3. Push lower eyelid down with extractor tip until the tip is beneath the bottom edge of the prosthesis.
4. Look upwards as the handle of the extractor is brought downwards until nearly flat to the cheek.
5. Look downwards, and the prosthesis is normally expelled.

Please note that gentle pressure applied to the upper eyelid can sometimes help to tilt the bottom edge of the prosthesis outwards to assist removal.

## **Cleaning**

A cleaner for hard contact lenses should be used to clean the prosthesis (it is **NOT** recommended that hand soap or washing up liquid are used as cleaners). The cleaning procedure is as follows.

1. Wash hands thoroughly.
2. Remove prosthesis and place it on palm of hand.
3. Put a few drops of hard contact lens solution onto the prosthesis and gently rub over all surfaces.
4. Rinse the prosthesis thoroughly according to manufacturer's instructions.
5. The prosthesis is now ready to be re-inserted.

The prosthesis should be removed and cleaned when it becomes sticky, dry and uncomfortable to wear. The frequency of this can vary from a few days to a couple of months.

If dropped the prosthesis is unlikely to break, however, to minimise the risk of scratching or fracture great care must be taken when inserting and removing the prosthesis.

It is recommended that the prosthesis should be checked and polished every year.

### **Department of Ocular Prosthetics: (0161) 276 5540**

Monday - Friday 9.00 am to 4.00 pm

Answer phone available outside of these hours.