

Information for Patients

Nevanac eye drops for patients with diabetes having a cataract operation

If you have diabetes you are at risk of developing 'macular oedema'. This means that there is swelling in the central part at the back of your eye, the macula, causing reduced vision. Macular oedema can occur, or be made worse, following a cataract operation. The overall risk of this is about 2–3% (two to three per hundred operations) but the risk is higher in diabetics, especially if there is some element of diabetic eye disease.

Nevanac eye drops have been shown, in research studies, to significantly reduce the occurrence of this problem in diabetes. If you have diabetes and are going to have a cataract operation we recommend that you are treated with a course of these drops.

Nevanac drops dosing schedule

When you are seen in the eye clinic and put on the waiting list for a cataract operation the doctor will give you a prescription for the Nevanac eye drops 1mg/ml. These should be picked up at the hospital pharmacy. You might be given two bottles.

Please do not start to use the drops until 1 day before the day of your cataract operation. The drops could continue for up to 2 months afterwards and are in addition to the standard eye drops you will receive as advised by your doctor, which are given to all patients who have surgery on their eye.

The following regime is advised:

1. Day before surgery

Please use 3 times in the day. You should use the drops 3 times each day at regular intervals throughout the day.

2. Day of surgery.

If your surgery is in the morning put in one drop before you leave home. When you get home use the drops 3 times at regular intervals for the rest of the day before sleep.

If your surgery is in the afternoon put in one drop in the morning after you wake and a second drop before you leave home. When you get home you need to use the drops at regular intervals twice before going to sleep.

3. From Day One after surgery for two months

Please use the drops three times a day at regular intervals throughout the day. The Nevanac eye drops will be in addition to the drops you are given by the cataract team after your operation. Please leave a couple of minutes between administering the different drops. This allows all the drops to work fully. Please continue the Nevanac drops even after you have finished your other drops for a total of 60 days.