

Atropine to be instilled to:

Right Eye _____

Left Eye _____

For _____ days per week

Named Orthoptist _____

Further information

If you require any further information, please contact:

The Orthoptic Department on 01744 646816.

Whiston Hospital
Warrington Road,
Prescot, Merseyside,
L35 5DR
Telephone: 0151 426 1600

St Helens Hospital
Marshalls Cross Road,
St Helens, Merseyside,
WA9 3DA
Telephone: 01744 26633

www.MerseyWestLancs.nhs.uk

Atropine Eye Drops for treatment of Amblyopia (Lazy eye)

If you need this leaflet in a different language or accessible format
please speak to a member of staff who can arrange it for you.

اگر به این بروشور به زبان دیگر یا در قالب دسترس پذیر نیاز دارید،
لطفاً با یکی از کارکنان صحبت کنید تا آن را برای شما تهیه کند.

Jeśli niniejsza ulotka ma być dostępna w innym języku lub formie,
proszę skontaktować się z członkiem personelu, który ją dla Państwa przygotowuje.

Dacă aveți nevoie de această broșură într-o altă limbă sau într-un format accesibil,
vă rog să discutați cu un membru al personalului să se ocupe
de acest lucru pentru dumneavoastră

如果您需要本传单的其他语言版本或无障碍格式，请联系工作人员为您安排。

إذا احتجت إلى هذه النشرة بلغة أخرى، أو بتنسيق
يسهل الوصول إليه، يرجى التحدث إلى أحد الموظفين لترتيب ذلك لك.

Author: Head Orthoptist
Department: Orthoptics
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What is Atropine?

Atropine is an eye drop that can be used to treat amblyopia (lazy eye) in children. It is used as an alternative to an eye patch.

What does the treatment involve?

Atropine eye drops or ointment will be issued by the doctor or orthoptist.

You will need to put Atropine into your child's good eye twice weekly. You will notice that the pupil of that eye will become very large when the drop is in.

You will need to attend the orthoptic clinic every four weeks so that your child's vision can be monitored. Regular attendance is essential to this treatment being continued.

If your child wears glasses they should continue to use them throughout the treatment.

How does Atropine work?

Atropine relaxes the focusing muscles of the eye, reducing the vision in the good eye. This may be enough to encourage the lazy eye to take over and hopefully improving the vision. It tends to be more successful where the vision is only moderately reduced.

How do I use the Atropine?

Wash your hands before and after using the drops. Do not touch your own eyes and encourage your child not to rub their eyes to avoid spreading the drops to the other eye. Drops can be put in whilst your child is sleeping if this is easier.

Are there any side effects?

If your child has a squint you may notice that this swaps over to the eye with Atropine in, this is normal.

Your child may be dazzled in bright light, in such cases sunglasses or a hat may be useful.

Your child will have reduced vision particularly for close-up, whilst the drop is working.

Occasionally children have a reaction to the Atropine drops. If the eye becomes red or your child appears flushed with a raised temperature you should stop using the drops and see your GP.

How long will the treatment last?

Atropine treatment is usually carried out for an initial period of 3 months. Following this, a review with the doctor / orthoptist is necessary to decide whether to continue. This will depend on whether your child's vision has improved.

What happens if I do not use the Atropine?

Amblyopia (lazy eye) does not improve without treatment. There is a possibility that your child's vision may worsen if left untreated. The alternative to Atropine is to use a patch. Please see the leaflet 'Patching for lazy eye' for more information.

Additional Information

If your child needs to attend the hospital for another reason, please advise staff that the one dilated pupil is due to using these eye drops.