



We can provide interpreters for a variety of languages, information in larger print or other formats (e.g. audio) - please call us on 01932 723553.

To use the Text Relay service, prefix all numbers with 18001.

اگر نیاز به ترجمہ دارید، لطفاً با شماره 01932 723553 تماس بگیرید۔

ਜੇ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਤਰਜਮੇ ਦੀ ਲੋੜ ਹੈ ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਇਸ ਨੰਬਰ ਤੇ فون ਕਰੋ: 01932 723553

اگر آپ اس کا اردو زبان میں ترجمہ چاہتے ہیں، تو براہ کرم اس فون نمبر 01932 723553 پر رابطہ کریں

Se precisa de uma tradução por favor contacte: 01932 723553

আপনার অনুবাদের দরকার হলে এখানে যোগাযোগ করুন : 01932 723553

यदि आपको अनुवाद की ज़रूरत है तो कृपया इस नंबर पर फोन करें: 01932 723553

Jeżeli chcemy, aby te informacje w innym języku, proszę zadzwonić 01932 723553

Ashford Hospital
London Road
Ashford, Middlesex
TW15 3AA
Tel: **01784 884488**

St. Peter's Hospital
Guildford Road
Chertsey, Surrey
KT16 0PZ.
Tel: **01932 872000**

Website: www.ashfordstpeters.nhs.uk

Yag Laser Capsulotomy



Why has my vision become blurred after my Cataract Operation?

When your surgeon removed your cataract, a very thin part of the lens called the 'capsule' was left behind, to act as a 'bag' to support the new clear lens (implant), that was inserted to replace your lens.

This capsule or bag is very thin, like cling film. In some patients this capsule can thicken, becoming opaque, with a similar effect to your cataract. This can sometimes happen a few months after the cataract operation, more commonly it happens 2-3 years after the cataract operation.

How is my Posterior Capsule Opacity (PCO) treated?

The treatment is called Yag laser capsulotomy. This is a common procedure, which is carried out in the outpatient department. Laser is applied to the thickened capsule to make a small hole in the centre of the capsule for you to see through.

What happens during the laser treatment?

When you arrive in the eye clinic, you will have your vision checked and some drops put in your eye to dilate your pupil. The doctor will then examine your eye, before asking you to sign a consent form for the procedure.

Contact Details:

If you have any queries or concerns, please contact the Eye Unit helplines:

- Ashford Hospital – 01784 884402
- St Peter's Hospital – 01932 722686

Senior Nurses:

- Sister Mandy Wilson based at Ashford
- Deputy Sister Maggie Lewis based at Ashford
- Ophthalmology Nurse Practitioner (ONP) Jain Sidhu based at St Peter's

Further information can be obtained from:

<http://www.goodhopeeyeclinic.org.uk/yag-caps.htm>

<http://www.nib.org.uk/eye-health-eye-conditions-z-eye-conditions/cataracts-laser-treatment-following-cataract-surgery>

Further Information

We endeavour to provide an excellent service at all times, but should you have any concerns please, in the first instance, raise these with the Matron, Senior Nurse or Manager on duty. If they cannot resolve your concern, please contact our Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) on 01932 723553 or email pals@asph.nhs.uk. If you remain concerned, PALS can also advise upon how to make a formal complaint.

Author: Maggie Lewis

Department: Ophthalmology

Version: 1

Published: April 2015

Review: April 2018

Once in the laser room the doctor will put some local anaesthetic drops into your eye to numb the eye. You will then be asked to put your chin on the laser machine This is very similar to the machine used to examine your eyes in the clinic.

The doctor may put a special lens on the front of your eye to magnify the light, before applying the laser beam to the thickened capsule.

After the laser treatment the doctor will put another drop in your eye to make sure the pressure in the eye does not go up.

Will the laser hurt?

The procedure will be painless due to the local anaesthetic drops applied before the treatment. Some people find the light a little bright during the treatment.

Are there any complications with the treatment?

It is very unusual to suffer any complications with this treatment.

For some people, the eye pressure can rise after treatment. This is why we put a drop in at the end of the treatment to try to prevent this. If the doctor thinks you are at particular risk of this, they may ask you to wait for about an hour to have your pressure checked before you go home. If the pressure

remains high we may need to give you further drops or perhaps a tablet to help lower it.

Occasionally, the opening made by the hole is incomplete or too small. If this is the case, it will be necessary for you to have further treatment.

Very rarely, some patients can get a buildup of fluid at the back of the eye in an area called the macula. This is called macular oedema (swelling). If this happens it can cause your vision to become blurred or distorted.

Very rarely, some patients can have a retinal detachment after treatment.

What happens after the treatment

Most patients have blurred vision after treatment so **do not drive or ride a motorbike until the next day**. Many people also find lights appear very bright or dazzling. Some people have a mild discomfort or a headache after treatment. If this happens you can take your usual pain killers as instructed on the packet.

You can continue your usual daily routine after the treatment with the exception of driving, which you should not resume until the next day.

What symptoms should cause me concern after treatment

If you have any of the following symptoms, please contact the eye clinic:

- Severe pain
- Sudden onset of floaters
- Sudden onset of flashing lights
- Loss of vision
- Increasing redness of the eye

What do I need to do after I go home?

You may be given anti-inflammatory eye drops to use for a few days. These will help to reduce any inflammation in the eye. If you are using glaucoma or dry eye drops you should continue with these as well, leaving 5 minutes between different drops.