

Oxford Eye Hospital

Temporary treatment for Entropion

Information for patients



What is Entropion?

This is a condition that commonly affects the lower eyelid, causing it to turn inwards. This results in trichiasis - where the eyelashes rub against the front of the eye. Trichiasis causes discomfort, redness and sometimes a sticky eye. If left untreated, corneal ulcers may develop.

Treatment

This involves a minor operation to turn the lid outwards again to its normal position.

As a temporary measure, while you are waiting for your operation, tape can be stuck on your cheek to pull the eyelid out and back to its normal position. This will prevent the lashes from rubbing against the eye.

How to apply the tape

First wash your hands.

Using a piece of wide Sellotape, approximately 3 cms long, apply one end to the skin of the lower lid, just underneath the eyelashes (Figure 1).

Secure the other end of the tape to the cheek. The tension will pull the eyelid outwards and back into its normal position (Figure 1).

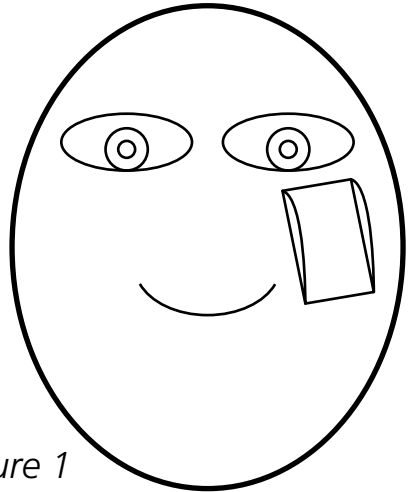


Figure 1

Do not use too much tension – if the lid is pulled too far outwards, it will result in a watery eye. Use the unaffected eye to judge how much tension to use. Change the tape as often as you need to, i.e. when it loses its tension and the lid starts to turn inwards again.

Sometimes you may be prescribed lubricants to protect the cornea while you are waiting for minor surgery to turn your eye lid back to correct position.

You will be sent an appointment for your operation through the post.

How to contact us

If you have any problems, please do not hesitate to telephone us on:

Eye Hospital Outpatients: Oxford **(01865) 231095**

If you need an interpreter or need a document in another language, large print, Braille or audio version, please call **01865 221473** or email **PALSJR@orh.nhs.uk**

Rebecca Turner
Matron, Specialist Surgery
Version 2, May 2011
Review, May 2014
Oxford Radcliffe Hospitals NHS Trust
Oxford OX3 9DU
www.oxfordradcliffe.nhs.uk/patientinformation

OMI 3168