

_____ Should have their drop in

Right eye Left eye

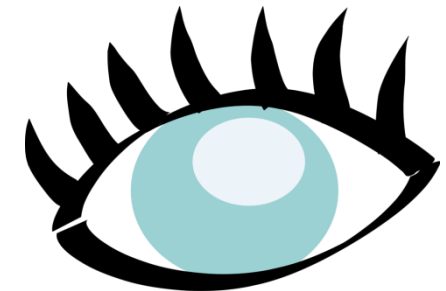
If you have any concerns, please contact
your orthoptist.

Orthoptist name: _____

Contact number: _____

My child needs atropine eye drops to treat a lazy eye

Information Leaflet



Why does my child need to use eye drops (atropine)?

We can use atropine eye drops as an alternative to wearing an eye patch.

How does it work?

The atropine is put in to the better seeing eye. The pupil (black circle in your eye) will get bigger and blur the vision, especially for close work. This forces the lazy eye to work harder and therefore improve the vision.

Are there any side effects?

Your child may be more sensitive to light. A small percentage of children may be sensitive to the drops and have a reaction from them. You should **STOP** using the drops and contact your orthoptist or GP for further advice if your child has any of the symptoms below:

- Change in heart rate
- Flushing of the skin
- Dryness of the mouth
- Giddiness/light headedness
- Vomiting

How do I use them?

Please wash your hands before and after use. Put one drop into the better seeing eye. You should gently pull down on the lower eyelid and put the drop in to the space between the lid and the eye. If you are struggling to do this, you may find it easier to do just before your child awakens in the morning. Your orthoptist will tell you which eye to put the drop in and how often you should do this.

Important Information

If you attend another health care professional whilst using atropine, please inform them. Atropine is a very strong eye drop and should be stored in a safe place out of reach of children. Please do not let anyone swallow the drops.

If your child has a squint and you notice it has switched to the other eye, please do not worry. This is a good sign! It means the lazy eye is working and the vision should be improving.