

Your guide to

Ozurdex[®]
(dexamethasone intravitreal
implant) 0.7mg

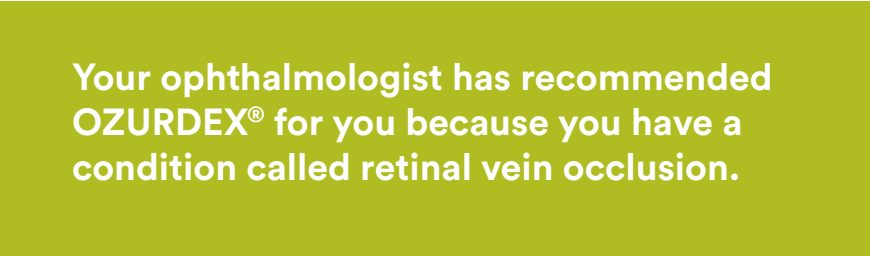
and retinal
vein occlusion





**OZURDEX[®] and
retinal vein occlusion**

Why OZURDEX[®]?



Your ophthalmologist has recommended
OZURDEX[®] for you because you have a
condition called retinal vein occlusion.

OZURDEX® is **designed to improve** or prevent worsening of **your vision**, aiming to preserve your sight for the future.

Your doctor will discuss with you the specific reasons why your treatment was selected, as well as the benefits and risks of treatment.



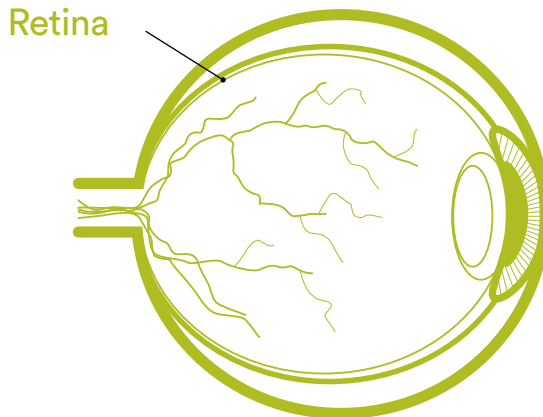


What is retinal vein occlusion?

Retinal vein occlusion is a blockage of the veins in the eye. This blockage leads to a build up of fluid causing swelling and inflammation, which can lead to blurring, fuzziness or changes to your vision.

The retina is a thin layer at the back of the eye that helps you to see things sharply and in focus, such as seeing faces or watching television.

A blockage or clot in one of the veins that supplies blood to the retina is known as a ‘retinal vein occlusion’. This blockage results in blood and other fluids leaking into the retina, which can lead to swelling and inflammation. It is this swelling that affects your eyesight.

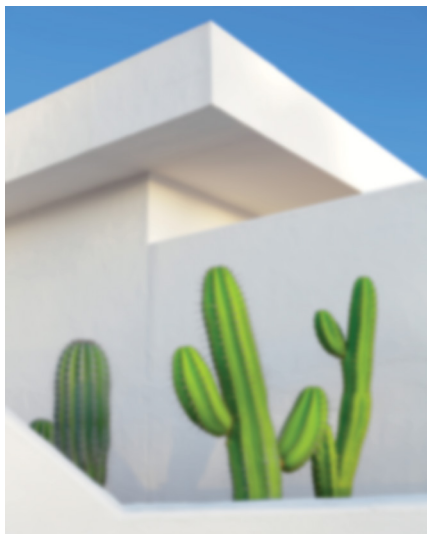


Symptoms

Retinal vein occlusion can result in a sudden decrease in your eyesight.

You may experience blurred vision, with straight lines appearing wavy, or a black spot appearing in the centre of your vision.

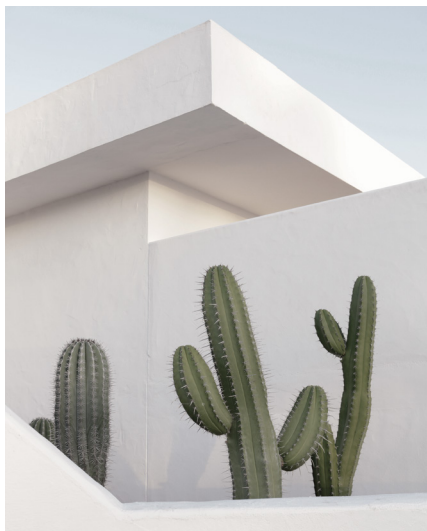
Blurred vision



Black spot in central vision



Grey haze



Straight lines appear wavy





Control of retinal vein occlusion risk factors

Looking after the following aspects of your health can be helpful if you have retinal vein occlusion:



Control of cholesterol levels



Blood pressure control



Keeping regular appointments with your medical team



Stopping smoking



Telling your ophthalmologist promptly of any changes in vision

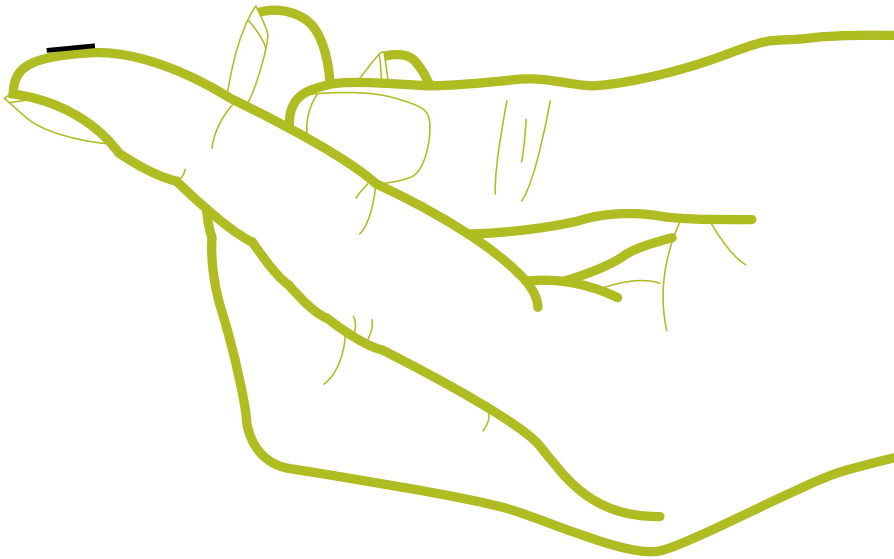


What is OZURDEX[®]?

OZURDEX[®] (dexamethasone intravitreal implant) is a sustained-release, biodegradable steroid implant that is injected into the eye to treat adults with retinal vein occlusion.

The **implant dissolves** in the eye over time, which means that it doesn't have to be removed and will eventually disappear on its own. The active drug, a steroid called dexamethasone, is slowly released to produce an **anti-inflammatory effect**, typically lasting for up to 6 months.

The implant with dexamethasone is 6 mm long and approximately 0.46 mm wide.





Before, during and after
your OZURDEX[®] treatment


**Am I required
to do anything
before the
OZURDEX[®]
injection
procedure?**

Your doctor may prescribe you antibiotic drops to administer daily for 3 days prior to the procedure.

It is important that your doctor knows:

- If you are allergic to dexamethasone or any of the other ingredients in this medicine
- If you've previously had eye surgery (e.g. for glaucoma or cataracts)
- If you're taking any medicines to thin the blood (anticoagulants)
- If you're using anti-inflammatory medicines
- If you currently have an infection caused by bacteria, a virus or fungus, in or around your eye(s)
- If you have had a herpes simplex infection in your eye in the past (an ulcer on the eye that has been there for a long time, or sores on the eye)
- If you have glaucoma or high intraocular pressure (pressure in your eye)
- If the treatment eye does not have a lens, or has a man-made lens and the back of the lens capsule ('the bag') has ruptured

**What to
expect
during the
OZURDEX[®]
injection
procedure**



Similarly to previous eye injections you may have received, you will be awake during the procedure.

Your doctor will take steps to ensure the surface of your eye is clean, and will numb this area to help you feel comfortable.


As the injection occurs, you may feel some pressure and hear a 'click' noise when your doctor presses the button that releases the OZURDEX[®] implant into your eye.

**What to do
following
OZURDEX®
treatment**

Be sure to follow your doctor's instructions.

Following the procedure, your doctor may have you wait up to 30 minutes, as they may examine you to ensure there has been no increase in pressure in your eye.

In some cases, you may be prescribed antibiotic drops to use over the next 3 days in order to reduce any possible risk of infection.



Some patients may experience eye pain or blurred vision just after the treatment. However, this should be temporary.

It is advised that patients experiencing these symptoms should not drive or use machinery until their vision has cleared.

If you do experience any side effects, speak to your doctor as soon as possible.

To help assess the effectiveness and safety of your treatment, please note any of the following:

- Your vision improves
- Your eye becomes red, sensitive to light, painful or develops a change in vision — if this occurs, please contact your eye doctor immediately

Possible side effects may include:

- A rise in eye pressure (you will be monitored for this)
- An increased risk of cataracts (where the lens becomes cloudy or opaque, requiring surgery to correct vision)

As with all injections, there is a risk of temporary bleeding arising from the procedure.

Please refer to the Patient Information Leaflet provided with OZURDEX® for further safety information.

Date	Time	Description of change

Will I receive OZURDEX® more than once?

The OZURDEX® implant slowly dissolves over time, releasing medication. As the level of medication decreases, swelling or inflammation may affect your vision again.

If this occurs, your ophthalmologist may recommend that you receive another OZURDEX® injection.

Notes

(e.g. your next appointment, your doctor's contact details, a record of your results to check your progress)

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Reporting of side effects

If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in the package leaflet. You can also report side effects directly via the Yellow Card Scheme at <https://yellowcard.mhra.gov.uk/>.

By reporting side effects you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.