Your guide to

Ozurdex®
(dexamethasone intravitreal implant) 0.7mg

and diabetic macular oedema

Allergan
an AbbVie company

Information for patients prescribed OZURDEX® for diabetic macular oedema
Produced and funded by Allergan.

Date of preparation: May 2020
UK-OZU-2050067

OZURDEX® and diabetic macular oedema

Why OZURDEX®?

Your ophthalmologist has recommended OZURDEX® for you because you have a condition called diabetic macular oedema.

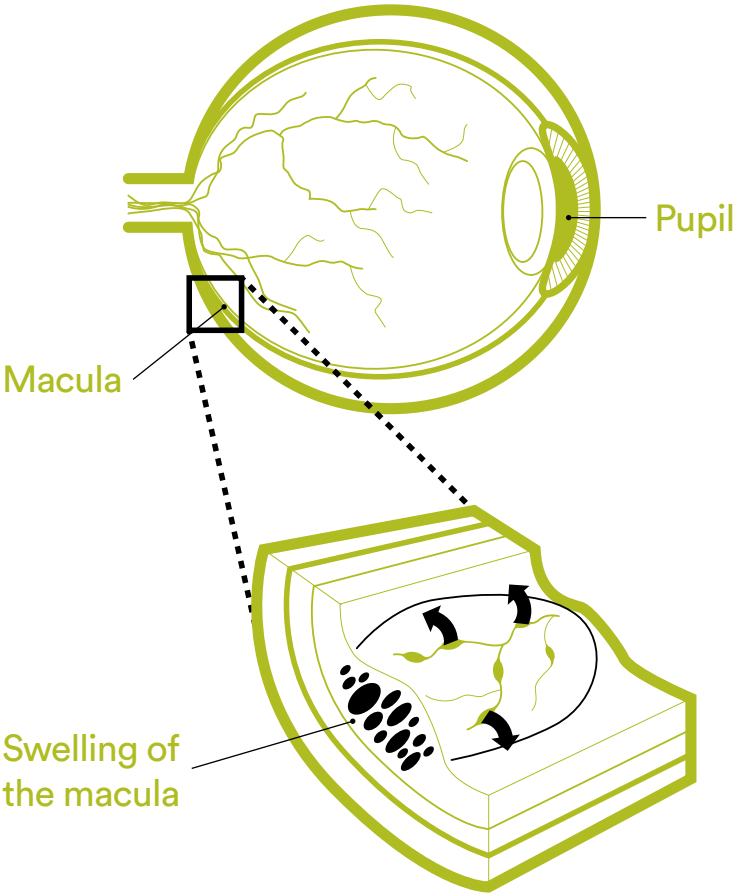
OZURDEX® is **designed to improve** or prevent worsening of **your vision**, aiming to preserve your sight for the future.

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 diabetic macular oedema?

Diabetic macular oedema is a condition that affects some people with diabetes. It is described as a swelling of the light-sensitive layer at the back of the eye, called the macula.

It occurs over time as a result of multiple factors, such as high blood sugar and cholesterol levels. This can cause damage to the small blood vessels in the eye, leading to inflammation, fluid leakage and swelling.



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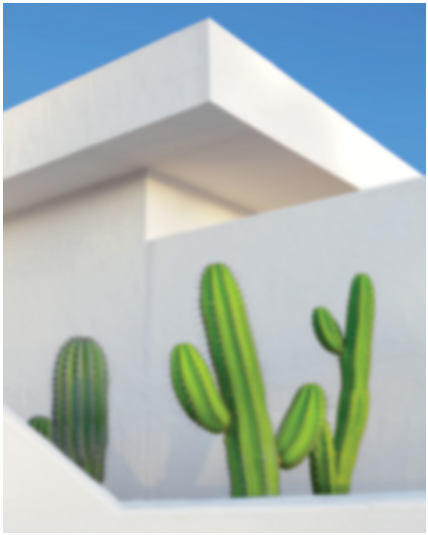
Symptoms

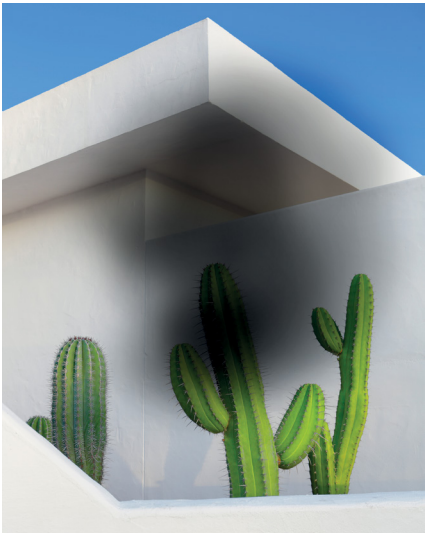
If diabetic macular oedema is caught and treated early, you may not have any symptoms. However, if it is not found and worsens over time, it can lead to blurry central vision.

If left untreated, diabetic macular oedema can cause significant vision loss.

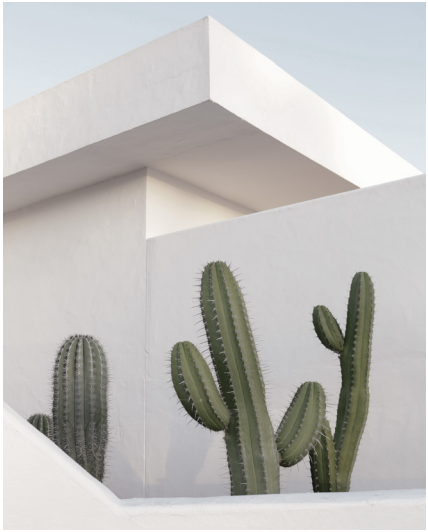
Reduced, veiled sight



Grey spots in the central face field



Deteriorated colour vision



Distortions: even lines seem bent

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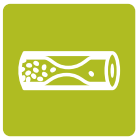
Control of diabetic macular oedema risk factors

Looking after the following aspects of your health can be helpful if you have diabetic macular oedema:

Regular monitoring and strict control of blood sugar levels



Control of cholesterol levels

Blood pressure control

Keeping regular appointments with your medical team

Stopping smoking

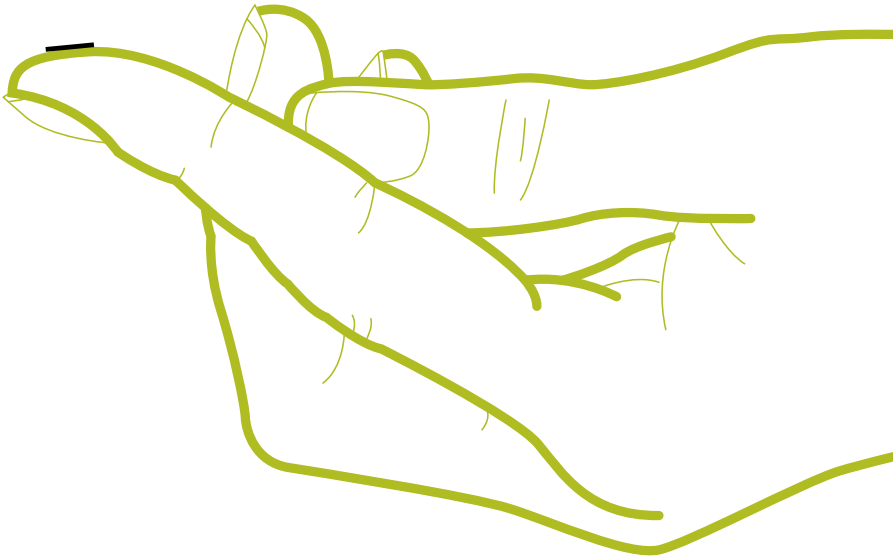
Telling your ophthalmologist promptly of any changes in vision

What is OZURDEX®?

OZURDEX® (dexamethasone intravitreal implant) is a sustained-release, biodegradable steroid implant that is injected into the eye to treat adults with diabetic macular oedema.

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)

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.

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