

Endophthalmitis

Ophthalmology

Introduction

This information is intended for patients who are receiving intra-vitreous injections (a fine injection into the white of your eye) for their eye condition. You are therefore more susceptible to endophthalmitis, a condition that could cause you to lose your sight.

This leaflet will help you recognise the signs of this complication.

What is endophthalmitis?

Endophthalmitis is a serious inflammation of the inside of the eye (internal eye tissue), most commonly caused by an infection.

It is treated as an emergency, so the earlier the condition is diagnosed, the earlier the treatment can be started.

How will I know I have endophthalmitis?

If you have had an intravitreal injection (injection into the eye) in the past two weeks and experience worsening pain, redness, blurring of vision or sensitivity to light then you may have endophthalmitis.

REMEMBER R.S.V.P!

Redness

Sensitivity to light

Vision reduction

Pain

The prevention of infection is a major priority in all healthcare and everyone has a part to play.

- **Wash your hands with soap and warm water and dry thoroughly. Use hand gel, if provided, in care facilities.**
- **If you have symptoms of diarrhoea and vomiting stay at home and do not visit relatives that are vulnerable in hospital or in residential care. You will spread the illness.**
- **Keep the environment clean and safe. Let's work together to keep it that way. Prevention is better than cure.**

What do I need to do if I think I have endophthalmitis in my eye following an injection?

Please attend urgently to the Eye Referral Unit. If it is outside of normal working hours, please attend the main Emergency Department. The earlier the eye is treated, the better the recovery.

What are the dangers of endophthalmitis?

You are at risk of reduced sight or permanent sight loss, if treatment is delayed.

What does the treatment involve?

To find out the cause of endophthalmitis, samples of the fluid from inside your eye will be taken and sent to the laboratory for tests. Antibiotics will be injected into your eye and antibiotic drops and/or tablets will be prescribed for you to take home.

How long will the treatment take?

Your eye will be checked by the doctor on duty every day initially and then weekly.

You will need to instil eye drops very frequently for several weeks and must continue this treatment until your doctor advises you to stop.

Surgery may be required depending upon the severity of the infection.

Subsequent follow-up appointments will depend upon the condition of your eye and how it is responding to treatment.

Can I continue having the intravitreal injections for my eye condition?

Your eye injections will be stopped until the infection has cleared. You will be able to recommence your injections once the eye has made a good recovery.

What do I need to remember?

You could lose your sight with endophthalmitis, therefore the earlier treatment is started, the better the chance of preserving some vision.

Where can I get more information?

We are here to help, please do not hesitate to contact us if you need any further information or advice:

Eye Referral Unit

01902 695805

Monday to Friday 08:00 until 17:00

Weekends 08:00 until 17:00

Outside of these hours, please attend the main Emergency Department or contact NHS Direct on telephone number 111.

English

If you need information in another way like easy read or a different language please let us know.

If you need an interpreter or assistance please let us know.

Lithuanian

Jeigu norėtumėte, kad informacija jums būtų pateikta kitu būdu, pavyzdžiui, supaprastinta forma ar kita kalba, prašome mums apie tai pranešti.

Jeigu jums reikia vertėjo ar kitos pagalbos, prašome mums apie tai pranešti.

Polish

Jeżeli chcieliby Państwo otrzymać te informacje w innej postaci, na przykład w wersji łatwej do czytania lub w innym języku, prosimy powiedzieć nam o tym.

Prosimy poinformować nas również, jeżeli potrzebowaliby Państwo usługi tłumaczenia ustnego lub innej pomocy.

Punjabi

ਜੇ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਰੂਪ ਵਿਚ, ਜਿਵੇਂ ਪੜ੍ਹਨ ਵਿਚ ਆਸਾਨ ਰੂਪ ਜਾਂ ਕਿਸੇ ਦੂਜੀ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿਚ, ਚਾਹੀਦੀ ਹੈ ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਸਾਨੂੰ ਦੱਸੋ।

ਜੇ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਦੁਭਾਸ਼ੀਏ ਦੀ ਜਾਂ ਸਹਾਇਤਾ ਦੀ ਲੋੜ ਹੈ ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਸਾਨੂੰ ਦੱਸੋ।

Romanian

Dacă aveți nevoie de informații în alt format, ca de exemplu caractere ușor de citit sau altă limbă, vă rugăm să ne informați.

Dacă aveți nevoie de un interpret sau de asistență, vă rugăm să ne informați.

Traditional Chinese

如果您需要以其他方式了解信息，如易读或其他语种，请告诉我们。

如果您需要口译人员或帮助，请告诉我们。