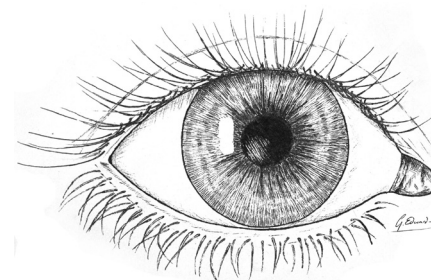


Anterior Uveitis / Iritis

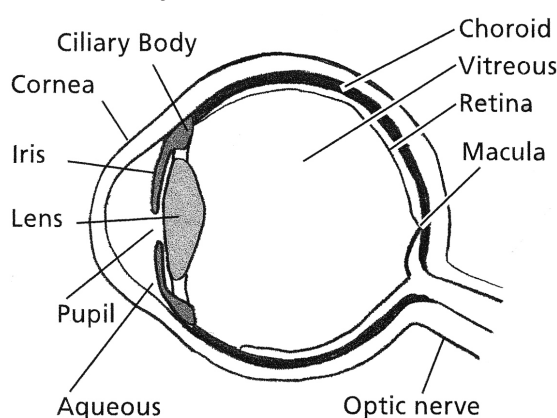
Ophthalmology



This leaflet provides information for patients who have been told they have Anterior Uveitis / Iritis.

What is Anterior Uveitis / Iritis

This condition means that the structures inside your eye, the iris (the coloured part of the eye) and the ciliary body (which lies behind the iris and holds the lens in place) are inflamed. This inflammation can be in one or both the eyes.



What causes Anterior Uveitis / Iritis?

The precise causes of Uveitis / Iritis are often unknown and difficult to identify. A small minority of people who suffer from Uveitis / Iritis have other inflammatory disorders of the body. It can also be associated with disease in other parts of the body.

Sometimes this condition can be associated with infection inside the eye caused by bacteria / viruses or with eye inflammation after operations such as cataract surgery.

What are the symptoms?

Symptoms depend on the severity, but include

- Pain, often an aching feeling
- Redness of the eye
- Sensitivity to light
- Blurred vision

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

- Please decontaminate your hands frequently for 20 seconds using soap and water or alcohol gel if available
- If you have symptoms of diarrhoea and/or vomiting, cough or other respiratory symptoms, a temperature or any loss of taste or smell please do not visit the hospital or any other care facility and seek advice from 111
- Keep the environment clean and tidy
- Let's work together to keep infections out of our hospitals and care homes.

- Excessive watering
- Floaters

Episodes of Uveitis / Iritis have been known to occur following stressful or emotional times.

What is the treatment?

The treatment is usually in the form of eye drops to use during the day. In addition, ointment may be prescribed at night.

Steroid drops:

These are prescribed to reduce inflammation in the eye. Your steroid drops will be used frequently initially, and then gradually reduced over a period of time as the inflammation in your eye settles.

Dilating drop:

These are prescribed to dilate the pupil. Dilating the pupil will prevent the inflamed iris from reacting to light and will make your eye feel more comfortable. These drops also prevent the iris from sticking to the lens in your eye.

What are the effects of using my drops?

Dilating the pupil will cause blurred vision and make you more sensitive to light. Wearing sunglasses will help ease your discomfort to bright light. It is recommended that you **DO NOT** drive or operate machinery during this time until your vision returns to normal.

It is important that you follow your steroid eye drop regime carefully, even if you think your eye feels better. Stopping your steroid drops too soon or suddenly may cause the inflammation in your eye to flare up or re-occur.

Will I have any investigations?

Routine blood tests and chest X-ray may be carried out to see if there is any inflammation / infection in your body, causing the symptoms. The clinic doctor will order these if required. Usually these are only requested in recurrent or severe cases

Will I need to be seen again?

You will be asked to return for a review appointment, so that the doctor can monitor your progress. The only way of assessing the eye is by having a slit lamp microscope examination by the doctor in clinic.

What is the expected outcome?

It is common for this condition to recur. Even if we find a cause we cannot prevent you from getting repeat episodes, it is not possible to predict how often or when it may recur in the future. It may affect the same eye or switch from eye to eye, we do not know why this happens.

If you develop similar symptoms with a red eye in the future, you should contact your GP or contact the Eye Casualty Department.

Do not use any remaining drops left over from previous episodes.

Where can I get more information?

We are here to help you, so don't hesitate to contact us if you need any further information or advice.

Eye Referral Unit

Tel: 01902 685805

Mon - Fri 08:00 - 17:00 hours

Weekends 08:00 - 17:00 hours

Minor Procedures

Tel: 01902 695831

Mon - Fri 08:30 - 17:00 hours

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

References

Kanski, J. (2003) Clinical ophthalmology; a systemic approach. USA: Butterworth-Heinemann.

Duvall-Young, J. And Efty, J. (1995) Uveal in Perry, J. And Tullo, A. (eds.) Care of the Ophthalmic Patient. London: Chapman and Hall, pp.194-281

Further Information

You can obtain additional information by contacting the Royal National Institute for the Blind.

Tel: 0845 766 9999

Website: www.rnib.org.uk

There is a patient Uveitis information and self help group that supplies leaflets and newsletters for you to contact if you wish.

Uveitis Information Group

South House,

Sweening,

Vidlin,

Shetland Isles, ZE2 9QE

Email: info@uveitis.net

Website: www.uveitis.net

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。