REASONS TO SEEK MEDICAL ADVICE
If your child complains of any of the following, it is vital that you seek urgent medical attention.

- Severe pain which is not relieved by pain medication
- Swelling of the eye
- Visual loss
- Green discharge from the eye

IF YOU HAVE ANY CONCERNS, YOU MAY CONTACT:
Eye Clinic
Monday - Friday: 08.00 – 17.00 hours
Tel: 01 409 6349

AFTER HOURS
Evenings and weekends, please contact:
Emergency Department in the Royal Victoria Eye & Ear Hospital Dublin
Tel: 01 708 8535

Remember: Ask your nurse if you are unsure about anything about your child’s care.

Additional instructions

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This information leaflet will advise you on how to care for your child after squint surgery.

**EYE CARE**
- Initially the white of the eye(s) will appear bloodshot and some blood may be seen in tears or on the eyelashes for several days. This is normal after this surgery. Use a clean facecloth and cooled boiled water to gently soften any crusts on the eyelashes and clean away any discharge.
- Instill eye drops as prescribed.
- To reduce the risk of eye infection be especially vigilant about hand washing before and after giving eye care.
- Encourage your child not to rub their eye(s) and to keep their hair out of their eyes. Take care during hair washing / showering to avoid shampoo and soap from entering eyes.
- Glasses are worn as usual unless your surgeon advises otherwise.
- If you are patching either eye for the treatment of amblyopia (lazy eye) discontinue this until your follow-up appointment.
- Teenagers: Please avoid wearing eye make-up for 2-3 weeks.

**EATING AND DRINKING**
- Nausea and vomiting can be a common side effect of squint surgery. Your child will usually receive anti-sickness medicine during surgery.
- As soon as your child is awake you may offer them fluids first, followed by a light diet.
- As long as your child is drinking, there is no need for concern if your child does not feel like eating much initially.

**PAIN RELIEF**
Your child may experience some pain or discomfort after this surgery.

Your nurse will give you a pain relief leaflet explaining the times your child is next due pain medication. Distracting your child with DVD’s, games or TV may also help take their mind off any pain or discomfort.

**PLAY AND ACTIVITY**
Your child should rest for the remainder of the day and should avoid swimming or contact sports until your follow-up visit. Your child may require up to a week to recover before they return to school / crèche.

**FOLLOW-UP**
Your child will be seen in the clinic as advised by your consultant. At this visit, your doctor will make sure there is no infection and answer any queries you may have.