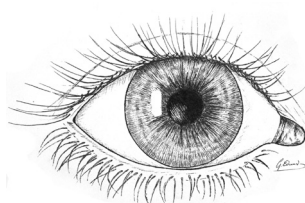


Electrolysis

Ophthalmology



Introduction

This leaflet is for patients who have ingrowing eyelashes on the eyelid and have been told they need a minor procedure to remove them. The aim of the leaflet is to inform you what to expect during and after your procedure.

What is Electrolysis?

Electrolysis is the removal of eyelashes using a fine electric current to destroy the eyelash follicle at the root. This procedure is performed in the outpatient department under local anaesthetic.

Consent

We must seek your consent for any procedure or treatment beforehand. Your doctor will explain the risks, benefits, and alternatives where relevant before they ask for your consent. If you are unsure about any aspect of the procedure or treatment proposed, please do not hesitate to ask for more information.

Anaesthetic

We use local anaesthetic eye drops and an injection into the affected eyelid to numb the area. With a local anaesthetic you will be awake during the procedure.

What are the benefits?

- Relief of symptoms
- Reduction of infection in the eye

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.

What are the risks / side effects?

- There may be bruising around the eye
- There is a small risk of infection of the lid or eye
- You may have an allergic reaction to the local anaesthetic injection or the antibiotic ointment drops

Do I need to do anything prior to the procedure?

No preparation is required prior to the procedure.

Why do I need Electrolysis / What happens during the procedure?

You need electrolysis to remove in growing eyelashes. Ingrowing eyelashes (trichiasis) turn inwards and rub against the front of the eye causing irritation. It may be due to conditions of the lid or the lining of the lid (conjunctiva) for example blepharitis - inflammation of the edge of the lids. It can also be caused by injuries to the lid such as burns or by previous surgery.

How long will this procedure take?

The time taken can vary and will depend on how many eyelashes need removal.

What to expect after your procedure

You may have your eye padded for up to 4 hours. After a minor operation your eye / eyelid may feel sore. If this is so, you may take your usual brand of painkiller. Take this as directed and do not exceed the recommended dose.

You may wash the area as normal from the following day. If the Doctor has prescribed a cream for your eyelid, please use it as directed. This is an antibiotic and will help the wound heal quickly. The treatment should be used as prescribed.

Will the eyelashes grow again?

It is possible that this treatment may need to be repeated if these lashes grow again. The doctor will advise you about your follow-up appointment.

What should I do if I need advice or information?

Staff in Ophthalmology are here to help and contactable as follows:

Eye Referral Unit

01902 695805

Mon – Fri, 8:00am – 5:00pm

Weekends, 8:00am – 5:00pm

Mary Jones Ward

01902 695801

Mon – Fri, 7:00am – 7:30pm

Outpatients Department

01902 695831

Mon – Fri, 8:30am - 5:00pm

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。