

Atropine Drops / Ointment for a Glasses Test

قطرات/مرهم الأتروبين
لغايات فحص النظر وتحديد الحاجة
للنظارات



**Moorfields
Eye Hospital Dubai**
A branch of Moorfields London



مستشفى كينغز كوليدج لندن
King's College Hospital London

What are the **effects of Atropine?**

Atropine has two effects when instilled in the eyes:

- ▶ Dilates the pupil (makes the black part of the eye larger).
- ▶ Stops the eye from focusing properly - blurring the child's near vision temporarily.

Why has my **child been prescribed Atropine?**

Atropine has been prescribed to enable an eye care specialist to check the back of your child's eyes and to determine if glasses are required.

Atropine drops / ointment may be used when:

- ▶ A child's eyes have failed to dilate sufficiently with Cyclopentolate drops used in the clinic.
- ▶ Your child has very dark coloured eyes; the additional pigmentation makes dilation more difficult.




How long will my child's vision be blurred for?

The blurred vision normally lasts a couple of days but may last for 7 days or more after using it. The pupils are normally dilated for a few days but can, on occasion, remain dilated for up to 14 days after the last drop has been instilled. Pupil dilation tends to last longer in children with lighter coloured eyes.

Are there any side effects I should look out for?

Your child may become sensitive to bright light so they may benefit from wearing sunglasses. Other side effects of Atropine are rare, but if any of the following occur, then please stop using the atropine immediately and contact Moorfields Eye Hospital.

- ▶ Bloodshot eyes
 - ▶ Conjunctivitis (sticky eyes)
 - ▶ Swelling of the eyelids
 - ▶ Restlessness or hyperactivity
 - ▶ Flushing and dry skin
 - ▶ Fever
 - ▶ Vomiting
 - ▶ Nausea
 - ▶ Irregular heart beat
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How should I instill the Atropine drops / ointment?

Some parents prefer to instill the drops or ointment in their child's eyes whilst the child is asleep.

1. Wash your hands before applying the ointment or drops.
2. Gently pull down the lower eyelid of one eye with your finger. Instill one drop of Atropine OR squeeze a little ointment (about the size of a match head) into the area between the eyeball and the lower eyelid.
3. Release the eyelid. Your child may complain that the ointment or drops sting, but this will stop after a few seconds.
4. If using Atropine drops (rather than ointment) press gently on the inner corner of the eye for 10 seconds. This will avoid the solution draining away into the nose and being absorbed systemically.
5. Repeat with the other eye.
6. Repeat the procedure twice daily for three days before the next appointment.
7. Always wash your hands and your child's hands after using the drops to avoid it being taken internally.



When should I use the eye drops?

Saturday AM PM

Sunday AM PM

Monday AM PM

Tuesday AM PM

Wednesday AM PM

Thursday AM PM

Friday AM PM

Unless directed otherwise, do not instill the drops on the same day of the appointment.



Moorfields Dubai



Moorfields Eye Hospital Dubai

A branch of Moorfields London

Moorfields Eye Hospital Dubai

Dubai Healthcare City,
PO Box 505054, District 1,
Al Razi Building 64, Block E, Floor 3,
Dubai, U.A.E.
Tel. +971 4 429 7888
moorfields.ae



Opening hours:

Saturday to Thursday, 8.30am to 5.30pm,
for information and advice on eye conditions and
treatments from experienced ophthalmic trained staff.

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مستشفى كينجز كوليدج لندن
King's College Hospital London

King's College Hospital - Dubai Hills

Dubai Hills, AlKhail Road,
Marabea East Exit
Tel: +9714 247 7777
www.kch.ae
Open 24/7

