

CATARACT SURGERY

Important Dates and Times

Surgery Date : _____

Arrival Time: _____ at the Georgian Bay General Hospital
Main Entrance

YOU WILL NEED A DRIVER.

Physician Medical Assessment - You are to make an appointment with your family doctor to complete the pre-operative assessment form which you have been given. Please bring the completed form on your day of surgery.

Pre-op Phone Call - You will receive a call from the pre-operative nurse a few days before your surgery to review your instructions, answer any of your questions or concerns and advise you what time to arrive.

Eye Measurement Date and Time _____ at Dr. Scanlan's Office, please bring your eyeglasses with you to this appointment. If you choose to have the laser measurement the fee is payable at your appointment (either by cash or cheque). **IF YOU WEAR CONTACT LENSES PLEASE NOTIFY OUR OFFICE. YOU WILL REQUIRE SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS.**

At the hospital after your surgery you will be told at what time you will see Dr. Scanlan in the office the next day.

YOU WILL NEED A DRIVER.

Dr. Scanlan will see you again 1-2 weeks after surgery in his office

Date _____ Time _____

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Avant l'opération

Beginning three (3) days _____ before your surgery, put one (1) drop of **Acular (Ketorolac)** and one (1) drop of **Vigamox (Moxifloxacin)** into _____ eye four (4) times per day (breakfast, lunch, supper, bedtime).

DO NOT START PRED FORTE (Prednisolone) before surgery. It will be added after the surgery is done

Always **wash your hands** before you use the eye drops.

To instill your drops, look up with both eyes, pull the lower lid down gently and instill drop. Close your eyes for one to two minutes after the drop is instilled. Leave 2 minutes between any two drops to avoid washing one out with the next. It does not matter which drop you instill first.

Please continue using all routine eye drops (example: glaucoma drops).

IMPORTANT

If for any reason you cannot keep your appointment please notify the hospital at 705-526-1300 ex. 5247, O.R. Scheduling Department Monday – Friday (excluding holidays) 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. at extension 5247. After hours please leave a message at this extension

Cataracts and Cataract Surgery Informed Consent

The following information is given so you can make an informed decision about having eye surgery. You may ask any questions about the procedure before agreeing to proceed with surgery by signing the consent form. Your signature indicates that you understand the following information and that you consent to allowing Dr. Scanlan to perform the procedure. Please review the information again before your surgical date.

1. What problem do I have?

You have a cataract. This is a decrease in the clarity of the lens inside the eye. It causes visual blurring. Cataracts are most often associated with aging.

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2. What can be done about my Cataract?

Your doctor can surgically remove the cataract and replace it with an artificial lens. This involves an operation in which the eye is frozen with local anesthetic. A small incision is created in the eye and a machine called an Ultrasound is inserted to break the cataract into small pieces. These are removed and a plastic replacement lens is inserted into the eye. The procedure is not performed with lasers but sometimes a laser is used several months after the surgery to improve the vision further. Most patients are awake during the surgery but are given medications to make them drowsy if required.

After the surgery you will use drops in the eye for about one month. You will have instructions to help ensure that healing occurs properly. At the end of the recovery period your long distance vision may be fine tuned with glasses. You will require glasses for reading at close range.

3. Should I have the surgery?

Your cataract will not improve without surgery but you may choose not to pursue surgery at this time. Your cataract will slowly progress over several months to years and cause a gradual decrease in vision. Delaying surgery will **not** cause any irreversible damage to your vision. Many people choose to have surgery when they begin having difficulty conducting their activities of daily living such as driving or reading. It is entirely a personal decision.

4. Are there any risks?

Removal of a cataract is a surgical procedure that does have risks and the outcome cannot be guaranteed. The risks include bleeding, infection, glaucoma, and retinal detachment. Other unpredictable events may occur during or after the surgery. Although they are rare, if a complication occurs which **cannot** be controlled it is possible that you may permanently lose the vision in the eye. The risk of becoming blind from the surgery is one in ten thousand.

Remember that the eye has many parts that contribute to good vision. It is possible that problems in parts of the eye other than the lens may be accounting for a portion of your vision difficulties. If this is the case, cataract surgery may result in partial or no improvement in vision.

Overall, there is a 95% chance that surgery will improve vision, a 3% chance vision will be the same, and a 2% chance vision will be worse than before the surgery. The best way to help make the surgery proceed smoothly is to remain quiet and still during the procedure and to listen to your instructions.

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DAY OF SURGERY

1. Please enter through the Main Entrance of the Hospital and report to the Receptionist to register indicating you are here for the Operating Room.
2. You may have breakfast and take your regular medications in the morning.
3. Please make arrangements to have a responsible adult accompany you home and remain with you over night. You must not drive yourself home or take a taxi unaccompanied.
4. Bring your Health Card with you.
5. Please have a bath or shower before surgery.
6. Remove all makeup and nail polish. Do not wear perfume or after shave.
7. Leave all valuables at home (watches, rings, money, etc.). All jewellery and body piercings **MUST BE REMOVED**.
8. DO NOT drink alcoholic beverages (including wine and beer) for 24 hours before and after surgery.
9. Wear comfortable loose fitting clothing and flat soled shoes. You will be asked to undress from the waist up and wear a hospital gown.

DISCHARGE FROM HOSPITAL

Your discharge time will be a **minimum** of 2 hours from your appointment time. When being discharged you will leave by the front entrance. Escorts must report to the Reception Clerk at the front entrance.

After Surgery

Start drops after surgery as per instructions

Week 1 & 2	All drops - Vigamox (Moxifloxacin), Acular (Ketorolac) and Pred Forte (Prednisolone) four (4) times a day for 2 weeks.
Week 3 & 4	STOP Vigamox (Moxifloxacin) Acular (Ketorolac) – two (2) times a day for 2 weeks. Pred Forte (Prednisolone) – two (2) times a day for 2 weeks.

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1. Your eye has a wound that will take time to heal. Do not be concerned if your vision is blurred or if it changes from day to day. Be patient.
2. **DO NOT** rub your eye.
3. You may experience a slight ache in your operated eye or a headache. Tylenol with or without codeine should help relieve this discomfort.
4. You may walk, watch TV, read, knit. No excessive activity.
5. Wear your shield to bed for 1 week.
6. You may shower 24 hours after surgery. Be careful to keep dirty water from running into the operative eye.
7. You may wish to wear sunglasses in bright sunlight.
8. **DO NOT DRIVE** until you are advised it is permissible.

Call your doctor immediately or go to the Emergency Department if:

- **Your eyes become very painful.**
- **You experience a sudden decrease in your vision.**

Please call the office with any questions.

**Dr. D. Scanlan
309 Midland Avenue
Midland, Ontario
L4R 3K5**

(705-527-7744)