

Important Information for Eye Surgery Patients

Pre-Surgery Guide

Information and advice for patients

Ophthalmology

Dear Patient,

You have been placed on the waiting list for an eye operation. If you have not yet received a date for your surgery, the admissions team will contact you with the details. It is important to ensure you are medically fit for your surgery. We have had to cancel some operations on the day due to patients not being medically fit.

Common Reasons for Cancellation:

1. High/Uncontrolled Blood Pressure

2. High Blood Sugar Levels (Diabetic Patients)

- Please keep your blood pressure and blood sugar under control as agreed with your GP/diabetic team. If your treatment is not effective, see your GP 1-2 weeks before the planned operation.

3. Active Antibiotic Treatment for Any Infection

4. Cold, Cough, Flu-like Symptoms

5. Stroke/Heart Attack within the Last 6 Months

- If you have had a heart attack or stroke within the last 6 months, your operation may not proceed as planned. Discuss this with your doctor during your eye clinic appointment.

6. Red Sore Eyes

- If your eye is red, please contact us before your surgery date.

Anticoagulant Medication Management (Blood Thinning Medication)

There is increased risk of bleeding due to blood thinning medication therefore:

- If you are taking Warfarin, your INR level should be within the therapeutic range (as stated in your INR book) and you must have INR checked 2 days before surgery.
- For Apixaban, Rivaroxaban, Edoxaban, Clopidogrel, Ticagrelor, discuss with the pre-op nurse and ensure that you follow their instructions.

- Avoid foods that thin the blood, such as garlic, ginger, ginseng, ginkgo, and all fish oils including Omega-3, for about one week before surgery.

Contact Lens Use before Pre-operative assessment appointment for cataract surgery (to ensure that accurate measurements are taken)

- **Soft Contact Lenses (Daily Disposables):** Do not wear for 1 week before pre-assessment.
- **Hard Contact Lenses or Gas Permeable Lenses:** Do not wear for 4 weeks before pre-assessment.
- **If you wear glasses,** bring them to the appointment or bring your current prescription from the optician.
- **If you have had refractive surgery (laser eye correction),** bring the relevant documentation.
- **Do not wear contact lenses on the day of the operation.**

Please Remember:

1. Bring all medications or a list of medications and your medical history from your GP to the pre-assessment.
2. If you have had any blood tests in the last 3 months, bring the results with you.
3. Bring any correspondence letters from other hospitals if you are under a specialist team.
4. You will receive a phone call 48-72 hours before your surgery to discuss the above information. **This step is to minimise cancellations on the day of surgery.**

Important Contact Numbers:

- **Pre-op Assessment Department:**
0121 507 4968 (8:30-16:30 Mon-Fri)
- **Scheduling Care Services for Cancellation/Rescheduling:** 0121 507 6790 option 4 (08:00-16:00 Mon-Fri)

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A Teaching Trust of The University of Birmingham

Incorporating the Midland Metropolitan University Hospital, City Health Campus, Sandwell Health Campus and Rowley Regis Hospital.

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M7706

Issue Date: February 2025

Review Date: February 2028