



York and Scarborough
Teaching Hospitals
NHS Foundation Trust

Strabismus (Squint) Surgery

Information for patients, relatives and carers

① For more information, please contact:

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Strabismus (Squint) Surgery

The intended benefits and possible complications relating to strabismus surgery are listed in this leaflet. No list is complete, as with any surgery there are unusual risks that are too numerous to list. The final result cannot be guaranteed. If you have any questions after reading this leaflet please discuss these with your doctor.

What are the intended benefits of strabismus surgery?

- To reduce/eliminate double vision
- To bring areas of single vision into the centre
- To straighten the eyes
- To reduce asthenopic symptoms (for example headache, eye pain)
- To reduce or eliminate compensatory head posture
- To promote binocularity
- To reduce visual confusion (loss of suppression)
- To reduce requirement for prism, patch or occlusion
- To improve visual field of vision

Are there any possible complications during the operation?

(These may lead to loss of sight, loss of the eye or a requirement for further surgery)

- Incorrect eye or muscle operated on
- Damage to the eye or vision
- Damage to the eye with suture needle or other sharp object
- Bleeding inside or outside the eye
- Loss of a muscle or muscle torn in two

What are the possible complications after my operation?

(These may lead to loss of sight, loss of the eye or a requirement for further surgery)

- Swelling of the eye or eyelids
- Redness of the 'white' of the eye that persists beyond two months
- Prominent scarring of the 'white' of the eye
- Under or over correction of the eye position leading in some cases to further squint surgery (risk 10% in average case)
- Deterioration of double vision, or new double vision, which is disabling
- Infection outside or inside the eye
- Allergy to any medication used

In an average case, the likelihood of a serious complication (permanent reduced vision or troublesome double vision) is one in 2,400.

Tell us what you think of this leaflet

We hope that you found this leaflet helpful. If you would like to tell us what you think, please contact:

Mr R H Taylor, Consultant Ophthalmologist,
York Hospital, Wigginton Road, York, YO31 8HE or
telephone 01904 725612.

Teaching, training and research

Our Trust is committed to teaching, training and research to support the development of health and healthcare in our community. Healthcare students may observe consultations for this purpose. You can opt out if you do not want students to observe. We may also ask you if you would like to be involved in our research.

Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS)

PALS offers impartial advice and assistance to patients, their relatives, friends and carers. We can listen to feedback (positive or negative), answer questions and help resolve any concerns about Trust services.

PALS can be contacted on 01904 726262, or email yhs-tr.patientexperienceteam@nhs.net.

An answer phone is available out of hours.

Leaflets in alternative languages or formats

If you would like this information in a different format, including braille or easy read, or translated into a different language, please speak to a member of staff in the ward or department providing your care.

Patient Information Leaflets can be accessed via the Trust's Patient Information Leaflet website:

www.yorkhospitals.nhs.uk/your-visit/patient-information-leaflets/

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