



# Phenylephrine and Tropicamide eye drops

Information for patients from the Ophthalmology Department and Maxillofacial Unit

- **Phenylephrine Hydrochloride 2.5% Eye Drops**
- **Phenylephrine Hydrochloride 10% Eye Drops**
- **Tropicamide 0.5% Eye Drops**
- **Tropicamide 1% Eye Drops**

This leaflet gives you information you need with regard to your eye drops.

Phenylephrine and Tropicamide eye drops allow your doctor or nurse to examine your eye more easily.

Both of these eye drops make the pupil of your eye larger and relax the muscles in your eye. This makes it easier for your doctor or nurse to examine your eye and treat your vision.

Phenylephrine eye drops may be used if you are having surgery on your eye.

The drops can cause blurred vision, which may last for several hours. **Do not drive and do not use tools or machines until your vision is clear again.**

Before instillation of drops it is important that you tell us if any of the following apply to you.

- You had an allergic reaction to any eye drops in the past.
- You have a history of higher-than-normal pressure in your eye or narrow angles.
- You have glaucoma.
- You have heart disease or fast heart beats (tachycardia).
- You have high blood pressure.
- You have any bulges in major arteries (aneurysms).
- You wear contact lenses.

- You take anti-depressant or anti-anxiety medication.
- You take any other medicines. This includes non-prescription medication, and herbal and complementary medicines.
- You are pregnant or breastfeeding.

#### **Possible side effects of Phenylephrine**

- Temporary stinging and blurred vision. This will gradually wear off within a couple of hours.
- In some cases, bright light can be uncomfortable for a few hours after having the drops.
- Occasionally allergic reactions that can affect the clear membrane (surface) that covers the white of your eye.
- Risk of angle closure glaucoma. This is when there is a sudden rise in eye pressure, that will need to be treated urgently.
- **Rare side effect.** Patients that already suffer from heart disease and are using a 10% dose, can rarely experience cardiac effects.

#### **Possible side effects of Tropicamide**

- Temporary stinging and blurred vision. This will gradually wear off within a couple of hours.
- Dry mouth, caused by drops being absorbed through the tear duct. This will gradually wear off within a couple of hours.

**If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your eye care team on 07934 603451.**

**This leaflet has been produced with and for patients.**

**Please let us know:**

- If you have any accessibility needs; this includes needing a hearing loop or wanting someone to come with you to your appointment.
- If you need an interpreter.
- If you need this information in another format (such as Braille, audio, large print or Easy Read).

**You can let us know this by:**

- Visiting the Trust web site (<https://www.ekhuft.nhs.uk/ais>).
- Calling the number at the top of your appointment letter.
- Adding this information to the Patient Portal (<https://pp.ekhuft.nhs.uk/login>).
- Telling a member of staff at your next appointment.

**Any complaints, comments, concerns or compliments**, please speak to a member of your healthcare team. Or contact the Patient Advice and Liaison Service on 01227 783145 or email ([ekh-tr.pals@nhs.net](mailto:ekh-tr.pals@nhs.net)).

**Patients should not bring large sums of money or valuables into hospital.** Please note that East Kent Hospitals accepts no responsibility for the loss or damage to personal property, unless the property has been handed into Trust staff for safe-keeping.

**Further patient information leaflets** are available via the East Kent Hospitals' web site (<https://www.ekhuft.nhs.uk/patient-information>).

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