

**Intraocular injection** allows direct application of drugs to the affected area of the eye with minimal systemic side effects. Commonly used drugs are Avastin, Lucentis, Eylea, Ozurdex, and Kenalog.

**NOTIFY YOUR DOCTOR IF YOU HAVE AN ALLERGY TO IODINE AND/OR SHELLFISH**

### How are intraocular injections performed?

- ✓ Topical anesthetic is applied directly to the eye.
- ✓ The eye is rinsed with an iodine solution to reduce the risk of infections.
- ✓ Your doctor will allow approximately 5 minutes for the anesthetic and iodine solution to take full effect.
- ✓ The injection is given using a very fine needle just outside the pupil.



## Do intraocular injections hurt?

Most patients have little to no discomfort during the procedure. Some patients do report a slight burning sensation when anesthetic is applied. A slight pressure sensation can be felt at the time of the injection.

## Are there side effects to the intraocular injections?

Intraocular injections are generally safe procedures. Occasionally side effects do occur. Corneal abrasion, a slight scratch on the surface of the eye, and infections rarely do occur. Systemic side effects are rare since only a minute amount of drug is used. Discuss with your doctor regarding the potential systemic side effects of each drug.

## How do I prepare for the procedure?

- ✓ Please make sure you understand the indication along with the potential risks of the procedure.
- ✓ Please do not wear eye makeup on the day of the procedure.
- ✓ Inform your doctor if you regularly use eye drops such as glaucoma drops or artificial tears.
- ✓ Please notify your doctor of any infection or inflammation in or around your eyes or if you have a cold or flu prior to procedure.
- ✓ **Notify your doctor if you have allergies to iodine, shellfish, or lidocaine.**
- ✓ Please arrange for someone to drive you to and from your appointment.

## What can I expect on the day of the procedure?

The procedure itself is typically painless. You can expect the following symptoms after the injection:

- ✓ Redness at the site of injection is normal. This may last up to 10 days, but it should get better with each day.
- ✓ You may see some dark floaters. Floaters last several days.
- ✓ Some degree of tearing is expected. Tears may have a slight blood tinge during the first day. Tearing should be much better by the next day.

- ✓ You may experience a gravelly, sandy, or burning sensation. Your eye should feel much better by the next day.
- ✓ Your vision may be slightly blurry. This blurriness should clear up by the next day. Call if you experience severe or total loss of vision.
- ✓ Your eyelid(s) may feel sticky. You may clean the lid margin with a clean, warm, moist face cloth the next morning.
- ✓ Do not use any eye drops for 24 hours unless specifically approved by your doctor.
- ✓ Do not rub the eye or get water in the eye for 3 days.

### What can I expect the next day?

The tearing, discomfort, and blurriness should be much better. If you feel that your eye does not feel better or if you experience increased pain or loss of vision, contact our office immediately. We would like to hear from you by 10 a.m. in order to have time to respond to your situation.

**PHONE:** 719-473-9595

**FAX:** 719-227-0668