

Patient information

Chalazion surgery

Meibomian cysts are common and are caused by a block in one of the small glands of the eyelid. This swelling is often referred to as a chalazion. Frequently these cysts become inflamed and cause a painful red lump within the eyelid.

The procedure

Your treatment involves a local anaesthetic injection around the cyst. A small incision is made on the inner surface of your eyelid so that the contents of the cyst can be removed. No stitches are necessary.

Benefits

The meibomian cyst has gone however it can recur.

Alternatives

- Warm compresses to the Chalazion and eyelid massage.
- To continue with antibiotic treatment—beneficial if there is an infection present.

Following your treatment

You should keep the eye padded for at least two hours after the procedure as this

reduces swelling and bruising. The antibiotic ointment should be used as instructed.

When the anaesthetic wears off, there may be some discomfort. You may find mild painkillers such as paracetamol helpful.

When you remove the pad, there will be some blood or discharge around the eye.

Clean the eye with cooled boiled water if necessary.

Contact lenses are best avoided in the first week.

Risks

The eyelid may be swollen and bruised for several days. The eyelid should have settled completely by two weeks.

If you wish to contact the Eye Department

Telephone 01284 713815 or 01284 712636

Monday to Thursday 9.00am to 5.00pm, Friday 9.00am to 1.00pm

At the weekend and out-of-hours, telephone 01284 713000 and ask to speak to the 'on-call' ophthalmic doctor.

If you would like any information regarding access to the West Suffolk Hospital and its facilities please visit the website for AccessAble (formerly DisabledGo) <https://www.accessable.co.uk/organisations/west-suffolk-nhs-foundation-trust>



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