



## Procedure Information Sheet

### Introduction

Glaucoma is a disease affecting the optic nerve, leading to progressive loss of visual field and visual acuity. Increase in eye pressure is the major cause of glaucoma. Glaucoma surgery reduces the eye pressure, so as to retard damage of the optic nerve.

### Indication

Glaucoma surgery is usually conducted when the eye pressure could not be reduced by eye drops. Even the surgery is performed; damage to the optic nerve and decline in visual function cannot be fully restored.

### The Operation / Procedure

Glaucoma surgery lowers eye pressure

- 1 by diversion and facilitates outflow of fluid in the eye
  - 1.1 Trabeculectomy (penetrating) or non-penetrating - A small drainage site is created by removing a piece of tissue from the wall of the eyeball. To increase the success rate of the surgery, anti-metabolites (mitomycin C or 5-fluorouracil), is sometimes administrated to delay the closure of drainage site.
  - 1.2 Glaucoma implant - A small tube is put in the wall of the eye.
- 2 by reduction of fluid production.
  - Laser or Cryotherapy - laser or cold temperature is applied to damage the fluid producing ciliary tissue

Glaucoma surgery is performed under local or general anesthesia.

### Before the Operation / Procedure

Inform your doctor if you have any systematic disease. Also, continue the medications or eye drops unless instructed by the doctors.

### After the Operation / Procedure

1. Avoid eye rubbing.
2. Avoid swimming and vigorous activities for a few weeks.
3. Avoid dirty water getting into your operated eye for the first few weeks.
4. Wear clothes with buttons and not pullovers in order to avoid the clothes coming in contact with the operated eye to prevent infection.
5. For the first few weeks after the surgery, the eye pressure and ocular health have not been fully stabilized. Doctor will closely monitor your eye pressure and ocular health.
6. You are required to take the medications and attend follow up according to doctor's instruction.
7. Glaucoma medications may need to be resumed or another surgery may be required if the eye pressure shoots up again.
8. If you notice the following signs or symptoms, you should contact your doctor or attend our Centre or Out-patient Centre for consultation.
  - 8.1 excessive bleeding
  - 8.2 severe pain
  - 8.3 fever
  - 8.4 signs of infection like redness, swelling, large amount of discharge or odor from your eye.

<p><b>Patient's Label</b>          Patient Name: _____          Hospital No: _____          Episode No: _____</p>
---



### Risk and Complication

In addition to possible complications associated with the use of anesthetics, ocular complications may occur days, weeks, months or years after the surgery. It includes:

1. Wound gape
2. Bleeding in the eye
3. Ocular infection
4. Chronic inflammation
5. Long-term irritation or discomfort in the eye
6. Exposure of implant
7. Uncontrolled leakage of eye fluid from the button holes in the conjunctival flap

Following the surgery, the eye pressure may rise or fall. Dramatic drop in eye pressure may lead to blurry vision. Second surgery may be required if the eye pressure is uncontrolled.

Glaucoma surgery may also lead to

1. Cataract, or deteriorating the pre-existing cataract
2. Double vision
3. Corneal oedema
4. Degenerative changes in the eyes
5. Vision deterioration
6. Complete loss of vision

Complications related to the use of anti-metabolites include:

1. Corneal surface toxicity
2. Keratitis
3. Corneal or scleral melting
4. Cataract
5. Thin bleb
6. Hypotony
7. Maculopathy
8. Decrease in visual acuity

### Disclaimer

This leaflet only provides general information pertaining to this operation / procedure. While common risks and complications are described, the list is not exhaustive, and the degree of risk could also vary between patients. Please contact your doctor for detailed information and specific enquiry.

### Reference

Smart patient website by Hospital Authority: Glaucoma Surgery (05/2020)

Patient's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Patient's Label**

Patient Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Hospital No: \_\_\_\_\_  
Episode No: \_\_\_\_\_