

## Can I contact someone if I have a problem?

Yes, you can contact the Eye Department between 8am and 5pm, Monday to Friday.

 01722 336262 ext 5366

If you have a problem with your eye in the first 2 days after your operation, please speak to the doctor on call for the eye department. Call the hospital and ask the switchboard operator to contact the on-call eye doctor.

 01722 336262.

Author: Mr Naeem Haq

Role: Consultant Ophthalmic and Oculoplastic Surgeon

Date written: November 2014

Last reviewed: September 2017

Review date: September 2020

Version: 1.2

Code: PI1236

If you need this information in another language or medium (audio, large print, etc) please contact the Customer Care Team on 0800 374208 email: [customer.care@salisbury.nhs.uk](mailto:customer.care@salisbury.nhs.uk).

You are entitled to a copy of any letter we write about you. Please ask if you want one when you come to the hospital.

The evidence used in the preparation of this leaflet is available on request. Please email [patient.information@salisbury.nhs.uk](mailto:patient.information@salisbury.nhs.uk) if you would like a reference list.

© Salisbury NHS Foundation Trust

Salisbury District Hospital, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP2 8BJ

[www.salisbury.nhs.uk](http://www.salisbury.nhs.uk)



**NHS**  
**Salisbury**  
NHS Foundation Trust

# Ectropion

# information

**Eye Clinic**  
**01722 336262 ext 5366**  
**(8am - 5pm)**

Salisbury NHS Foundation Trust

## Ectropion

This is a condition in which the lower eyelid droops down. It can cause redness and soreness of the lid and can affect the whole lid or just the inner corner.

### What causes ectropion?

There are mainly two types of ectropion, one due to aging changes and the other due to scarring on the outside of the lids caused by various conditions such as an injury or eczema. The age-related type is the commonest.

### What treatment is available?

The age-related type is treated with simple surgery. The types that are due to scarring require more complicated surgery. The type of surgery will be discussed with you by the doctor who sees you before you are placed on the waiting list. In most cases the surgery can be done under local anaesthetic but sometimes a general anaesthetic can be offered if you prefer. Sometimes the surgery may involve operating on other areas of the face to take a skin graft to correct the ectropion. If this is likely in your case, it will be discussed with you.

The procedure will be explained and the doctor or nurse will obtain your consent to undergo surgery.

You will not be able to drive yourself home after this operation so please arrange for someone to take you home.

## What happens when I come for the surgery?

You will have drops put in your eye and then a local anaesthetic injection is given into the lids (**not into the eye**) to numb your lids. The injection, though momentarily uncomfortable, numbs the lid so you feel no pain during the operation. This could take an hour or more depending on the type of surgery being done. You will be asleep during the procedure if you have opted for a general anaesthetic.

You will be able to go home the same day. You might be given some antibiotic ointment to use for a week or two.

### Are there any complications from the surgery?

As with any other surgery you can have some discomfort, bruising, swelling and, rarely, infection. You may also have a tender lump on the outside of the eye for a few weeks.

If there is a higher risk of complication it will be discussed with you before the operation.

All of the stitches are dissolvable and do not need to be removed.

### Can the ectropion come back?

The results are on the whole good with only around 5% coming back. This is more likely with the more complicated surgeries. It can usually be corrected with further surgery.