



ADVICE TO PATIENTS LEAVING HOSPITAL AFTER GLAUCOMA SURGERY

What is glaucoma?

Glaucoma is a condition where the optic nerve at the back of the eye slowly deteriorates. This usually occurs as a result of an increase in eye pressure, due to fluid not draining out of the eye properly. The damage progresses very slowly and decreases vision gradually. The vision that is lost is irreversible.

When glaucoma has been detected, prompt treatment may prevent any further loss of sight. Surgical techniques such as “trabeculectomy” can control eye pressure by creating a new channel for the fluid to leave your eye.

Complete healing may take up to 3 months.

Will I have pain in my eye after glaucoma surgery?

Most people experience slight discomfort (mild pain or minor irritation) in their eye after surgery. Paracetamol (Panadol, Panamax) can be taken to relieve the discomfort (mild pain, minor irritation). If you experience **severe pain** in or around your eye during your hospital stay or when you go home, you must inform your doctor or hospital staff immediately. Please **DO NOT** wait for your next appointment.

Hospital staff can be contacted through the switchboard on 9382 7111.