

Ectropion of the eyelid

Ectropion is a condition where the lower eyelid turns outwards and droops or falls away from the eye.

This condition tends to primarily affect elderly patients and can involve any section of the eyelid.

Patients can experience irritable, red, sore and watery eyes.

It can also cause retention problems for the artificial eye as the eyelid does not have the depth or strength to hold the eye in place.

Ectropion happens when the tissues and tendons on the inner and outer areas of the eyelid become looser and no longer have adequate depth or tightness.

Further information

Please contact the appropriate department if you require any further information or advice.



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Conditions that may occur after eye removal surgery



Patient Information Leaflet

Some physical and psychological issues can arise following eye removal surgery.

Occasionally, patients may experience:

- structural problems
- some bleeding
- inflammation
- infection
- nerve pain

Some other conditions that can occur are covered in this leaflet.

Phantom eye pain

Phantom pain feels like it's coming from a body part that is no longer there. Some people can experience phantom sensations or visual hallucinations.

Phantom pain and non-painful phantom sensations result from

changes in the central nervous system. These changes are caused by nerves to the eye being inhibited from transmitting sensation.

Post enucleation socket syndrome (PESS)

When an eye is surgically removed, it can lead to loss of volume in the socket. The upper eyelid can look hollow and deeper on that side than on the other side. This is due to shrinkage of the fatty tissues that lie deep within the socket.

An assessment can be arranged with your surgical consultant to discuss the problem and possible solutions.

Ptosis / blepharoptosis

This condition is caused by drooping of the upper eyelid. It can happen if the tendon of the muscle within the eyelid becomes stretched. This can happen with age. Neurological conditions may also contribute to it.

Upper eyelid retraction

This is where the upper eyelid stays in a high / retracted position, giving a 'stare' appearance.

The sclera (white part of the eye) will usually be seen above the iris. Blinking will be affected and the eyelid may not fully close during sleep.

Therefore, the surface of the artificial eye will tend to dry out in this area as the eyelid is not fully closing and clearing away any discharge. This can cause a line of dried discharge (crustiness) across the front of the artificial eye, which can lead to irritation.

This can be discussed with your consultant if required.