

Patient information

Intra-vitreous Ozurdex Implant

Ophthalmology Department – Aintree Hospital

What is Ozurdex?

Ozurdex (dexamethasone intravitreal implant 0.7mg) is a biodegradable steroid implant in an applicator.

It is injected into the vitreous (jelly) cavity of the eye. It gradually releases the drug over a period of four to six months.

This helps to decrease the swelling of the macula – an important part of the Retina (the back layer of your eye).

Why did my doctor choose Ozurdex?

You may have been diagnosed with either a Retinal Vein Occlusion a non-infectious Posterior Uveitis, Diabetic Macular Edema or Idiopathic Macular Edema.

What are the expected benefits of treatment?

This treatment is aimed at decreasing the swelling at the back of the eye and therefore aiding to stabilize vision.

How is it done?



- The procedure is done as a day case.
- Drops will be instilled on arrival to enlarge your pupils.
- Pre-operatively anaesthetic drops and iodine solution will be instilled in your eye.
- You will also receive an anaesthetic injection.
- The implant is injected with an applicator into the jelly (vitreous) cavity of the eye

What are the alternatives?

- Anti-VEGF intra-vitreous injections (Avastin).
- Intra-vitreous Triamcinolone Acetonide injection (IVTA).
- Laser treatment.
- Occasional Retinal surgery to remove any blood from the vitreous (jelly) cavity of the eye.
- Combination of above.

What should I do before I come into hospital?

- You might have been asked to instil drops to enlarge the pupil before leaving home.
- If your eye becomes sore with sticky discharge prior to the procedure please inform the hospital immediately.

What are the potential risks and side effects?

Most common

Bruising/mild soreness

This will fade in a couple of weeks. No treatment is required.

Corneal abrasion

A scratch over the transparent bit of the eye may occur during the procedure. This can cause pain or soreness but will heal quickly over a couple of days with appropriate treatment.

Floater

You might see a floater or a hairline in your visual field due to an image of the implant itself. This will gradually decrease over a period of three to four months.

Other adverse events include

- Worsening of cataract
- Bleeding in the vitreous (jelly of the eye)
- Retinal detachment.
- Inflammation
- Raised eye pressure which may or may not require treatment.

Most serious

Fortunately the most serious adverse effects are least common.

Less than 0.01% cases might develop an internal infection of the eye. This can cause rapid deterioration of vision or even total sight loss.

If your eye appearance changes i.e becomes more red or your vision becomes misty after the injection (there may/may not be pain) you should contact the hospital urgently.

What should alert me?

- Deterioration of vision (transient or longstanding).
- Painful red eye.

- Sticky matter or discharge.
- Curtain-like defect in the visual field.

After care

- Avoid rubbing your eye.
- Protect the eye from dust and dirt.
- You can drive the next day if the vision of the other eye meets the driving standards.
- Normal activities can be resumed a day after the procedure.
- You can fly on the day of procedure.

When can I return to work?

You may return to work a couple of days later if you feel fit enough to do so.

How many procedures would I need?

The implant is effective for four to six months. Re-implantation is dependent on further assessments.

Feedback

Your feedback is important to us and helps us influence care in the future.

Following your discharge from hospital or attendance at your outpatient appointment you will receive a text asking if you would recommend our service to others. Please take the time to text back, you will not be charged for the text and can opt out at any point. Your co-operation is greatly appreciated.

Further Information

Ophthalmology Clinic
Tel: 0151 529 0185

You may also like to contact the Retinal Co-ordinator on
Tel:0151 529 0196

RNIB/RCO Understanding Eye
Conditions relating to Diabetes
June 2011 ISBN: 978 1 4445 0975 2 Royal College of
Ophthalmologists
www.rcophth.ac.uk

Royal National Institute of Blind People
www.rnib.org
helpline 0303 123 9999

National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence
<http://www.nice.org.uk/>

Allergan Ophthalmology
Marlow International
Parkway, Bucks SL7 1YL
A Patient Guide to Ozurdex therapy UK/0537/2011

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All Trust approved information is available on request in alternative formats, including other languages, easy read, large print, audio, Braille, moon and electronically.

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