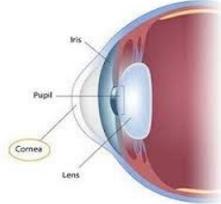


What is a Cornea Transplant?

Your **cornea** is the transparent front part of the eye that covers the iris, pupil and the other front components of the eye, known as the anterior chamber. The cornea accounts for a large part of the eye's focusing power. *Pictured from top: iris, pupil, cornea and lens of the eye.*



A **cornea transplant** is when the cornea is surgically replaced, either fully or partially, by donor cornea tissue. It is recommended for people who have vision problems caused by thinning of the cornea, most often due to keratoconus, or scarring of the cornea. It is of utmost importance to take care of the cornea transplant after surgery in order to facilitate a fast recovery, and reduce the risk of complications, such as rejection.

Normal post-operative symptoms:

- 1) "Grittiness" or dry eye feeling
- 2) Droopy or swollen eyelids
- 3) Blurred vision
- 4) Light sensitivity

Instructions for Immediately and One Day After Surgery:

Upon entering the recovery room:

- 1) After surgery, your surgeon placed an eye patch and shield over your eye. Do not remove this unless directed to do so by recovery room staff or your doctor.
- 2) For pain, you can use a prescription pain medication prescribed by your doctor, or over-the-counter medications such as Tylenol, Advil or Aspirin. Contact your doctor if pain is unmanageable even with pain medication
- 3) Continue all oral and eye drop prescriptions that were given to you before surgery, such as, Vigamox, antibiotic eyedrops that need to be taken four times daily. Wear the eye shield.

One day after surgery:

- 1) You will come a follow up appointment.
- 2) Pressure will be checked.
- 3) Graft attachment will be checked. If graft is unattached, air will be added under the graft.

Instructions for the First Week and Month After Surgery:

- 1) Antibiotic drops should be administered four times daily the first week post-op.
- 2) You will still need to administer the anti-inflammatory drop four or more times daily, as directed by your doctor
- 3) Refrain from wearing any eye make up until at least 7 days after surgery.
- 4) You may resume normal activities after one week post-op.
- 5) Refrain from lifting anything that exceeds 20 lbs for 6 weeks.
- 6) Refrain from going swimming or using a hot tub for at least 14 days following surgery.
- 7) Wear the eye shield at night for at least 6 to 12 weeks following surgery.

Instructions for Two Months and Onward After Surgery:

- 1) Do not operate heavy machinery or drive a car until your vision has reached a satisfactory level.
- 2) You must wear full time eye protection for the first 2 to 3 months.
- 3) Wear sunglasses continually as needed for comfort.
- 4) Wear protective eyewear during any contact sports or around small children for at least 3 months.
- 5) Follow Up Appointments:
 - ⇒ 1 Day after surgery
 - ⇒ 1 week after surgery
 - ⇒ 1 month after surgery
 - ⇒ 2 months after surgery
 - ⇒ 3 months after surgery
 - ⇒ 6 months after surgery
 - ⇒ 9 months after surgery
 - ⇒ 12 months after surgery
 - ⇒ Yearly



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