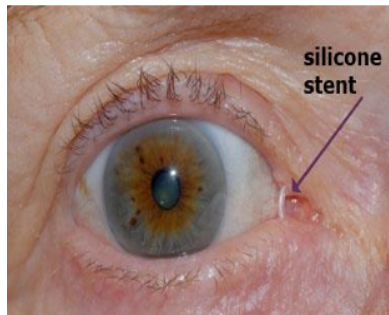


POST OPERATIVE CARE

DACRYOCYSTORHINOSTOMY (DCR)

PLEASE READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS IN THEIR ENTIRETY

You have undergone DACRYOCYSTORHINOSTOMY surgery. The blocked nasolacrimal duct was bypassed by removing a small portion of bone and opening the nasolacrimal sac. A small silicone tube was placed in the corner of the eye to open your tear ducts. **DO NOT touch or pull the tube.** The tube will be removed in 6-8 weeks in our office.



After your surgery, we will call you to schedule your post op appointment.

Please do the following until your post op appointment:

APPLY OINTMENT TO SUTURES



- Gently moisten the incisions with the ointment. Ointment will not harm your eye but may blur your vision temporarily.
- If experiencing dry eye, use artificial tears.

APPLY ICE PACKS TO THE EYES



- Packaged frozen peas work well.
- Use for 20 minutes each hour for the first 24 hours after surgery while awake or as much as tolerated.
- After 24 hours, use 4-5 times per day. Stop once swelling resolves.

YOU MAY SHOWER



- However, do not soak the incisions. Please face away from the shower head and clean your face with a warm, damp cloth.

SLEEP WITH HEAD ELEVATED



- Elevate your head on pillows or sleep in a reclining chair for 24-48 hours to help resolve swelling faster.

OTHER



- DO NOT pull the tubes in the inner corner of your eyes. Avoid sneezing, or do so through an open mouth, to avoid dislodging the tubes until they are removed in 6-8 weeks.
- No eye makeup.
- Avoid contact lens use for 2 weeks. Glasses may be worn.
- Resume blood thinners (including aspirin) two (2) DAYS after surgery.

NOSEBLEEDS



- Bleeding from the nose is normal after surgery.
- Use Afrin and hold pressure until bleeding stops.
- If you are unable to control the bleeding, contact our office.

Important: unknown allergies to antibiotic ointment can occur. Signs include intense irritation, puffy redness, itchiness, or severe pain. Stop the ointment immediately and text or call the office. If possible, please photograph, or have someone photograph, the reaction to text to the doctor for review.

DACRYOCYSTORHINOSTOMY (DCR)

You may experience the following:

1. **BRUISING AND SWELLING IS EXPECTED.** Your eyelids will swell. Swelling can remain for 1 – 2 weeks.
2. **DIFFERENCES OF BRUISING AND SWELLING BETWEEN SIDES IS NORMAL,** even if the identical surgery was performed on each side.
3. **BLURRED VISION IS NORMAL.** Blurred vision is typically caused by ointment in the eyes or dryness of the eyes. Dryness can be treated with artificial tears.
4. **REDNESS AND CRUSTING OF THE INCISIONS IS EXPECTED.** This is normal healing.
5. **MILD PAIN OR SORENESS IS EXPECTED.** Take pain medications **AS NEEDED.** Begin with Tylenol (Acetaminophen). **AVOID ASPIRIN OR IBUPROFEN.**
6. **MILD BLEEDING FROM INCISIONS IS COMMON.** Treat with gentle pressure of a clean gauze for 10 minutes. HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE can worsen bleeding. Be sure to take your normal blood pressure medicine(s) as directed.

The following are **NOT** normal. **PLEASE CALL** if you are experiencing:

1. **SEVERE PAIN** not controlled with routine pain meds
2. **THICK GREEN PUS** or **SIGNIFICANT DISCHARGE** from the incision
3. **THE EYE CLOSING ENTIRELY** from swelling or bruising
4. **SIGNIFICANT VISION LOSS** (worse than blurred vision from ointment or dryness)
5. **SEPARATION OR GAPING** of the incision edges

<i>Who to Text or Call</i>		
Regular Hours (8a-5p, Mon-Fri)	Clinic Technician Line	479-279-6900
After Hours	Dr. Heymann's PA Ellie	913-940-7754
If you can't reach us any other way	Dr. Heymann's personal cell phone	361-739-9376



- If you are experiencing an issue, do not hesitate to text or call at any time.
- If texting, please include a helpful picture depicting the issue, your name, date of birth, date of surgery, and type of surgery.



If you are experiencing an emergency that is life or vision-threatening, or are unable to get in touch with us, call 911 or go to the emergency room.