

**hughes
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OPHTHALMIC OPTICIANS

ACUTE ANTERIOR UVEITIS

Inflammation Red eye Watery eye Flashing lights
Antibiotic Eye drops Painkillers
Retinal detachment Viral infection Cornea Retinal tear
Vitreous gel Inflammation Blurred
Blurred vision Large floaters vision
Eye drops Red eye Inflammation Antibiotic
Cornea Light sensitivity Watery eye Flashing lights
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What is it?

Acute Anterior Uveitis is the term used to describe inflammation of the eye. The cause of this inflammation is often unknown and it may recur.

Symptoms include:

- Increased sensitivity to light
- The eye may be red and watery
- Vision may become blurred
- Some pain may be experienced such as an ache around the eye

Treatment is by two different eye drops, one drop that protects the pupil and one that reduces the inflammation. Whilst your pupil is enlarged you may not be able to drive – the drops can blur your vision, stopping you meeting the DVLA standard for driving, or may cause glare (e.g. from the sun or headlights).

It is very important that the treatment is taken as prescribed and that your return to the Optometrist (or the Practice), who diagnosed your condition and started treatment for two reviews. Your Optometrist may contact the Hospital Eye Department but will work in conjunction with them at all times and your treatment will be jointly managed.

Should the pain and redness increase at any point after starting eye drop treatment, you should contact the Practice where you were examined.

You should tell the person answering the phone that you are being treated for acute anterior uveitis, explain that you feel things have changed and say that you need an emergency assessment. If you are unable to do this, contact your GP or call NHS24 on 111.

Unless you are told otherwise, the correct dosages to treat the affected eye are:

- Cyclopentolate 1% eye drops 3 times a day for 7 days
- Prednisolone 1% eye drops (a steroid) every waking hour

You will normally be reviewed on day two of treatment.

Your Optometrist will contact the Hospital Eye Department if there is a problem. Otherwise you will be advised to reduce your Prednisolone 1% eye drops as follows:

- Prednisolone 1% every second hour (when awake) for 7 days
- Then 6 times a day for the next 7 days
- Then 4 times a day for the next 7 days
- Then 3 times a day for the next 7 days
- Then 2 times a day for the next 7 days
- Then 1 time a day for the next 7 days, **then stop.**

You will normally be reviewed one week after stopping the drops.

What should you do if you think your acute anterior uveitis has returned?

In the future if you have similar symptoms as before you should contact your Optometrist. You should tell the person answering the phone that you have been treated for acute anterior uveitis, explain that your symptoms have returned and say that you need an emergency assessment.

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