Strabismus Surgery
(Surgery to Line up Crooked Eyes)

Strabismus is a condition in which the eyes do not line up normally. This is often a condition that a person is born with. It usually has no known cause. However, it may be caused by prematurity, infection, cerebral palsy, muscular problems, or problems in development that may be genetic. This means it is caused by a problem with one of the genes. It usually does not mean that a child with strabismus will pass this problem on to their children.

THE MAIN PROBLEMS WITH STRABISMUS ARE:

- If this is not fixed at an early age in children, they will never see with both eyes (*binocular vision*). The eyes will never be able to fix on an object. One eye usually becomes dominant and does most of the seeing. The earlier in life this problem is fixed, the more likely a child will have binocular vision and develop full use of both eyes. Having this operation does not guarantee that vision will become normal.
- Strabismus is also fixed to improve appearance.

TREATMENT

Your eyes are moved by the muscles attached to the backs of the eyes in a location that you cannot see. The strabismus is caused by muscle imbalance in the eyes or on one eye. It can usually be fixed or improved by lengthening or shortening muscles of the involved eye or eyes. Your surgeon decides which treatment is best and will discuss this with you.

FOLLOWING SURGERY

If a dressing was applied, this may be changed once per day or as instructed.

- If eye drops or an ointment was prescribed, use as directed for the full time directed.
- Let your caregiver know if your eye become more red and swollen with use of medications. This could be an allergic reaction.

SEEK IMMEDIATE MEDICAL CARE IF:

- There is redness, swelling, or increasing pain near or around the eye.
- Pus or drainage is coming from around the eye.
- An unexplained oral temperature above 102° F (38.9° C) develops, or as your caregiver suggests.

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