Surgery for Glaucoma
Care After Surgery

Please read the instructions outlined below. Refer to these instructions for the next few weeks. These discharge instructions provide you with general information on caring for yourself after surgery. Your caregiver may also give you specific instructions.

After glaucoma surgery you may lose part or all of your vision for a while. There will be changes in depth perception. This means it is hard to judge distance. Because of this, it will be difficult to walk stairs and you should not drive. You will receive medications for discomfort. Glaucoma surgery is often done on an outpatient basis. The surgeon may need to examine the eye and measure the pressure later the same day of the surgery or the day following.

HOME CARE INSTRUCTIONS

- Follow carefully the treatment prescribed by your physician.
- After filtering surgery, your surgeon may want you to use an eye shield to protect your eye from injury.
- Patch your eye as directed. Apply eye drops or ointment as needed. Put drops or ointment in the eye by pulling down the lower lid and place a line of ointment or place 1 to 2 drops along the inside of the lower lid. Do not touch the tip of the applicator to the eye. Wash your hands before using eye drops or ointment.
- Watch for signs of infection, including: increased pain, inflammation (redness), swelling, visual changes, (pus like) drainage. **If your eye develops any of these signs, tell your physician immediately**.
- Avoid:
  - Rubbing your eyes.
  - Smoking.
  - Contact sports, strenuous yard work, housework, swimming, and lifting heavy objects for 1 to 2 weeks.
  - Lifting and bending.

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