

Atropine Instructions

Atropine is used to temporarily enlarge the pupil. This is to enable the ophthalmologist to obtain an accurate refraction.

It is necessary that you put Atropine in at home as prescribed.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Put 1 drop of atropine in as follows:

	Morning	Evening
Day 1	Both eyes	Both eyes
Day 2	Both eyes	Both eyes
Day 3	Both eyes	Both eyes
Doctors appointment	No drops	

2. Wash your hands.
3. Gently pull down the lower lid and instil 1 drop. If you are unsure if the drop went in **DO NOT REPEAT** in that eye. Lightly apply pressure using your forefinger to the angle between the nose and the corner of the eye for 30 seconds. Wipe away the excess immediately after instillation of the drop. Repeat in the second eye.
4. Wash your hands after using the medication to avoid accidental contact with your own eyes
5. Atropine will cause significant enlargement of the pupil and will blur near vision for as long as 2-3 weeks after use
6. Significant side effects are very rare. If any of the following side effects occur, stop the drops and notify your ophthalmologist or family doctor:
 - a. Increased temperature, fever, flushing of the skin
 - b. Dryness of mouth, thirst



- c. Irritation of the skin around the eyes
 - d. Hallucinations, nightmares
 - e. Irritability, hyperactivity
 - f. Sleepiness
 - g. Increased heart rate, shortness of breath
 - h. Poor balance
7. Atropine is a powerful medication. Keep it out of reach of children and pets. Discard unused medications as per your pharmacist's instructions. A small bottle contains a possibly deadly dose for small children if ingested.

