

Chalazion Surgery

A chalazion is a small lump on the eyelid formed by a blockage and/or an infection of the meibomian (oil) gland. Surgery is required if the problem is not fixed by simple measures such as warm compresses and massage.

Chalazion Surgery

Surgery involves a small incision of the lump. It is then drained.

Pre-operatively

The anaesthetist will meet you before the procedure to explain what type of anaesthesia they will use and answer any questions you may have. A premedication may be ordered at this time, to aid your child with pain relief, sedation or both. To start anaesthesia by injection, a numbing cream can be used to numb the area of the skin where the needle/drip is put in.

Length of surgery

Your child will be away from you for approximately 45 minutes.

Post-operatively

Some children may be distressed and upset on return from theatre. This can be normal after an anaesthetic and they should settle after a short time. The nurse will monitor your child closely post-operatively, including an assessment of their pulse rate, breathing and any pain.

Your child will need to stay post operatively in Day Surgery for at least 1 hour depending on their recovery. They must be fully awake and eating and drinking before going home.

Your child may return from theatre with an Intravenous Cannula (IV drip) in their hand. The nurse will remove this before you go home.

Pain management

The type of pain relief required after the operation depends on the degree of surgery. Your child will be given pain relief during their surgery and should be comfortable on return from theatre. Please speak to your nurse if you feel that your child is in pain.

Upon discharge the nursing staff will give you a Pain Management Pamphlet regarding pain relief at home.

Wound care

Nursing staff will let you know which plan has been asked for by your surgeon.

Look at any wound for general signs of infection. These include heat to the site, pus/ooze, foul smell, swelling, redness, fever or pain. If signs of infection are noticed, seek medical attention.

Eating and drinking

Your child can start drinking and eating something light as soon as they are fully awake in Day Surgery. Start the light slowly, beginning with a drink. This reduces the chance of nausea and vomiting.



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There is no need for a special diet after this surgery, but it is recommended that your child avoids greasy or junk food for approximately 24 hours after surgery.

Nausea and vomiting

After Day Surgery, do not be concerned if your child vomits once or twice after leaving hospital. If they vomit or feel sick, stop giving food for about an hour, then try a light diet, as much as your child can manage without feeling sick.

If your child keeps vomiting, please seek medical attention by either calling your child's surgeon or your nearest emergency department.

Return to School and Sport

Your child should reduce their activities during the next 24 hours and be under adult supervision to help them fully recover from the anaesthetic and procedure.

Please check when your child can return to school with the surgical team.

Follow Up Appointments

Your nurse or doctor will discuss follow up appointments with you.

All Day Surgery patients will receive a follow up telephone call from a nurse the next day following surgery. This is to enquire on your child's post anaesthetic/surgery condition, post-operation recovery and any questions you may have about their care.

If you have any concerns after your child's discharge please telephone your private doctor, local GP or WCH on (08) 8161 7000 and ask to speak to your eye doctor.

In the event of an emergency please call an ambulance or take your child to the nearest Hospital Emergency Department.

For more information

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