

## **Patient Information for Atropine Drops for Amblyopia**

1. Amblyopia is subnormal vision in a healthy eye from disuse or past blurring.
2. The drops go into the better eye, the non-squinting eye, the non-amblyopic eye, in order to blur the good eye, and encourage the weaker eye (the one with amblyopia) to develop better, to 'take back' the seeing.
3. Wash hands prior to opening the drops - for cleanliness.
4. Always wash hands after using the drops, as the drops will make the vision blurry in any one who brushes the drops into their own eyes.
5. Keep the bottle out of the reach of all children.
6. The pupil of the eye will become black and larger, and your child will not see distinctly in that eye. The pupil dilation lasts a few days longer than the blurring. The dilation can last up to 2-3 weeks, a longer time in those with blue eyes, a shorter time if brown.
7. If the light troubles your child then a pair of sunglasses or hat with a large brim can be beneficial.
8. Occasionally children can become flushed in the face, irritable or develop redness on the body - if this occurs, cease the drops and contact Dr Colville.
9. So that the vision in both eyes can be tested, (meaning that the vision in the good eye can be checked without the blurring influence of the atropine drops), the atropine drops are ceased 2 weeks prior to the child's next appointment.
10. Repeat scripts will be given, but provided caution is taken with cleanliness, it is not obligatory to discard the drops at exactly one month.