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Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol  
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University Health Board

**Information for Patients  
Instructions for the use of  
Cyclopentolate for the Refraction  
of Children  
The Orthoptic Department**

**Your child needs a glasses test and a detailed examination of the back of the eye...**

To enable the Optometrist/Ophthalmologist to do this, it is necessary to put drops in your child's eyes. The drops dilate the pupils and prevent focussing. The drops need to be put in 30-45 minutes before your child's appointment.

**Cyclopentolate**

This is the drop that will dilate (enlarge) the pupils and stop your child from focussing. This gives the Optometrist/Ophthalmologist a clear view of the back of the eye (retina) and enables a more accurate glasses test.

By holding up lenses and moving a line of light across the retina the Optometrist/Ophthalmologist can measure the strength of glasses needed.

**Are there side effects?**

- Vision can be blurred for up to 6 hours and the pupils can remain large for up to 48 hours.
- Whilst the pupil is dilated, your child will not like bright light.
- Rarely an allergic reaction can occur. This can result in particularly red eyes, dry or flushed skin. **If this happens stop using the drops and contact the Eye Clinic (01633 238856) or your GP.**

**Instructions for putting drops in children's eyes:**

- Store drops at room temperature and out of the reach of children.
- Put the drops in 30-45 minutes before the appointment time.
- Wash your hands before and after putting in the drops.
- With your child lying down put one to two drops of Cyclopentolate into both eyes.
- If you have any doubts about putting the drops in, come to the eye clinic and ask a Nurse or Orthoptist for assistance.
- Use only on the person for whom they are prescribed.
- Once open do not re-use.
- Dispose of remaining drops and packaging after use.



