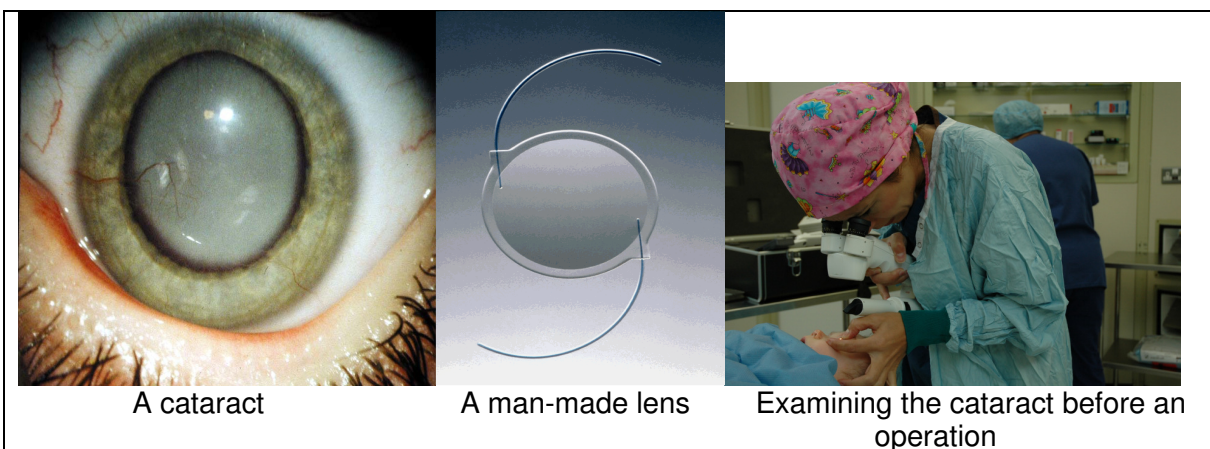


Cataract Surgery – 8-12s

What is it?

You have a natural lens inside your eye that helps you to see. The lens should be clear like glass but a cataract makes the lens cloudy.

During cataract surgery the surgeon removes the cloudy lens from your eye and might replace it with a man-made lens.



How does it work?

You will be given a general anaesthetic, which means you will be asleep during your operation to make sure you lie still and don't feel anything. The doctor will then remove the lens which has the cataract and might fit a man-made lens in its place.

Why do I have to have one?

Not all cataracts need an operation, but having a bad cataract is a problem that can only be fixed by surgery. Currently there isn't any other medical treatment which gets rid of a cataract but sometimes glasses will help you to see better. The doctor will talk to you and your parents to help decide whether surgery is the best thing to help you right now.

What will happen after?

After your operation you will be given eye drops to help your eye get better. The doctor will need to see you in the clinic regularly. One of your eyes might have weaker vision and need patching treatment. Some children need a contact lens or glasses to see afterwards.

Are there any side-effects?

Children's eyes are delicate and sometimes there can be a problem, such as an infection or too high pressure in the eye, which needs more treatment after the operation. The eye doctors will keep a check on you and treat any problem which happens.

Will the operation work?

Most children do see better after the operation.

Moorfields Eye Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

City Road, London EC1V 2PD

Phone: 020 7253 3411

www.moorfields.nhs.uk

Moorfields Direct Telephone Helpline

Phone: 020 7566 2345

Monday to Friday 09.00 to 16.30 for further information and advice.

Credits

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