FactSheet



Our vision: Is for Australians to be free of glaucoma blindness

MINIject®

MINIJECT [®] is a soft, porous silicone device used to help drain fluid from the eye. It is 5mm in length and differs from other minimally invasive glaucoma surgery (MIGS) devices as it is not metallic. Only one device is implanted.

How does it work?

MINIJect ® is placed in the eye as a minimally-invasive procedure. It drains fluid out of the eye into a natural outflow pathway between the choroid (blood vessel layer) and sclera (outer white layer of the eye). This is a different pathway to other MIGS devices. The porous material of the device allows the fluid to drain through the implant, reducing eye pressure.

Who is it suitable for?

MINIJect[®] is for adults with open-angle glaucoma. It has a favourable short- and long-term safety profile. Due to the high efficacy of MINIJect[®] in lowering the eye pressure, it is often recommended for patients who require further lowering of their eye pressure and, where their treating ophthalmologist determines, it may also be appropriate to reduce or stop the use of their eye drops.

What are the benefits?

MINIJect[®] significantly reduces eye pressure and sustains it over time. It may also reduce the need for use of glaucoma medication and further interventions. The MINIJect[®] minimally-invasive procedure is safe and has a more rapid recovery than

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Fact Sheet



conventional glaucoma procedures. The implant cannot be felt or seen in the eye, and because the implant is made of silicone, it is MRI and X-ray safe.

Before the procedure?

Your ophthalmologist will provide you with guidelines and instructions, such as adding or discontinuing certain eye drops from your daily regimen.

During the procedure?

Your eye will be numbed during surgery and a small (2.2mm) incision will be made in the cornea. MINIject® will be inserted with a 0.5mm protrusion into the anterior chamber (front chamber of the eye) so that there is sufficient distance away from the cornea. The procedure usually takes between 15 to 30 minutes.

After the procedure?

Your ophthalmologist may provide some guidelines such as precautions when it comes to driving and returning to work. You will need to use eye drops after surgery to prevent inflammation and/or infection, similar to what is done after cataract surgery. Your ophthalmologist will advise when to reduce or stop these drops. Recovery time is approximately the same as after cataract surgery.

What are the risks?

MINIject[®] is generally safe, however risks include infection, temporary bleeding, damage to the cornea, eye pressure that is too low or too high, and device failure.

Are there any alternatives?

Alternative treatment options include eye drops, laser therapy, other MIGS devices, or conventional glaucoma surgery. Your ophthalmologist will discuss each of these options and decide which ones are suitable for you.

