

**MCCANNEL EYE CLINIC  
AFTER DSEK SURGERY INSTRUCTIONS**

**I. General Reminders**

1. RETURN APPOINTMENT: \_\_\_\_\_ at McCannel Eye Clinic.
2. Continue any medication from your general medical doctor unless instructed otherwise.
3. Call immediately if you have any problems or questions.

**II. Symptoms that often occur after surgery**

1. Scratchiness.
2. Foreign body sensation.

**III. "ALERT" Symptoms – Call immediately should these occur (952-848-8300)**

1. Deep aching pain with headache and/or nausea.

**IV. Post-operative care**

1. Lie flat in bed until your follow up visit the day after surgery.
2. You will be using eye drops following surgery. The nurse will explain them and there will also be instructions on the bottles.

**V. The first couple weeks following surgery**

1. You will wear a shield at bedtime until your doctor tells you to discontinue (usually around 2 weeks).
2. Minimize eye rubbing or heavy lifting for the first week following surgery.
3. No swimming, hot tubs, or whirlpools for 2 weeks. Showers are ok after your follow-up visit the day after surgery.
4. You will typically need to be seen for follow-up and post-operative care the day after surgery, at 2 weeks, 1-2 months, and 6 months following surgery. You will likely need visits every 6 months to 1 year.
5. It is advised that you do not receive preventive flu or pneumonia shots after corneal transplant procedures as this could lead to increased risk of corneal rejection.

**VI. Additional Postoperative Instructions**

1. Although you will be awake and alert in the recovery room, small amounts of anesthetic will remain in your body for at least 24 hours and you may feel tired and sleepy for the remainder of the day. Once you are at home you need to lie flat in bed until your post-operative visit the following day. You may get up to use the restroom and for meals. It is advisable to have someone with you at home for the remainder of the day.
2. Drink plenty of fluids. Alcoholic beverages should be avoided for 24 hours after your anesthesia or intravenous sedation.
3. Prolonged nausea, vomiting, loss of vision, discharge (other than tearing), or severe pain should be reported to your doctor at **952-848-8300**. Some discomfort in the operative eye the day of surgery is normal.