

# Strabismus repair

## Discharge instructions

### What is a strabismus repair?

Strabismus (strah-**biz**-mus) repair is eye muscle surgery.

### What can I expect after surgery?

- eye redness that will get better in 2 to 3 weeks
- pink-tinged tears for a few days
- swollen or itchy eyes
- sensitivity to bright lights
- trouble opening eyes for 1 or 2 days
- feeling dizzy or off-balance until your child gets used to seeing differently

### How should I care for my child?

Avoid hard rubbing of the eyes. A cool ice pack over the eyes may help with pain and itching. Do not use over-the-counter eye drops. Use only eye medicines prescribed by your surgeon.

Use a clean, warm wet washcloth to remove any dried drainage.

Do not let your child put his or her face in tap water for 1 week, depending on your surgeon's instructions.

Use sunglasses or a hat to protect eyes from bright light.

Children may wear their glasses as soon as needed.

Your child may vomit (throw up) shortly after surgery; this is normal. Your child may resume his/her regular diet.

See your Patient Discharge Summary sheet for specific instructions about activity, pain control, and when to see the surgeon again.

### When should I call the surgeon?

- temperature higher than 102° F (38.8° C)
- increasing eye pain
- swollen, painful eyelids
- dramatic change in eye position
- continued vomiting the day after surgery

### Questions?

This sheet is not specific to your child, but provides general information. If you have any questions please call the clinic.

For more reading material about this and other health topics, please call or visit the Family Resource Center library, or visit: [www.childrensmn.org/A-Z](http://www.childrensmn.org/A-Z).