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## ENTROPION

**Q *What is entropion?***

**A** The eyelids normally lie comfortably against the eye with the eyelashes turned outwards. If an eyelid rolls in so that the eyelashes brush against the eye it is called entropion. The lower eyelids are far more commonly affected than the upper lids.

**Q *What causes entropion?***

**A** The commonest type of entropion is due to ageing changes in the eyelids. This type affects only the lower eyelids. The other type of entropion is caused by scarring of the backs of the eyelids due to various diseases or to injuries. This type can affect the upper or the lower eyelids. It is much less common than the ageing type and it is more difficult to treat.

**Q *How is entropion treated?***

**A** All types of entropion require a surgical operation. This is usually not a very big operation and usually takes less than an hour. Patients normally go home on the same day.

**Q *Will I be awake for the operation?***

**A** Entropion surgery is usually done under local anaesthesia which means you will be awake for the operation. Eye drops are put into the eye and a small injection is given into the eyelid (but not into the eye) to make the area numb. You feel little or nothing during the surgery. If you prefer you can have a general anaesthetic which means you will be asleep for the operation.

**Q *What are the results of the surgery for entropion?***

**A** The results are usually very good. If you have a more complicated type of entropion which may be more difficult to treat this will be discussed fully with you before the surgery.

**Q *Are there any complications from the surgery?***

**A** Apart from mild bruising and swelling which are common and which quickly settle over the days after the surgery, there are very few complications. If there is a higher risk of any complication because of the type of entropion you have this will be discussed fully with you before the surgery.

**Q *Will the entropion come back?***

**A** About 5% of entropion corrections are not permanent and further surgery may be required. If the type of entropion you have means that the risk of it coming back is higher, this will be discussed with you before the surgery.

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