

**PROCEDURE FOR REMOVAL AND INSERTION OF
AN OCULAR PROSTHESIS/SHELL
(ARTIFICIAL EYE/SHELL)**

The main aim of these guidelines is to assist nursing/medical staff with the care of a patient with an existing prosthesis who may be on any ward other than an Ophthalmic ward

If the patient can self care they will be able to carry out this procedure themselves with no assistance as it is part of their normal hygiene routine and each patient may have different requirements

Protocol reviewed by: Matron Gill Charlton
 Prosthesis Specialist Nurse Bernadette Hope

Effective: August 2004

Review: August 2006

Equipment:

Basic Dressing Pack
Gallipot
Sodium Chloride 0.9% sachet
Prescribed ointment, if required
Drug Kardex, if required
Gloves

Procedure

ACTION	RATIONALE
Explain the procedure to the patient	To obtain consent and cooperation
Position patient comfortably in treatment chair	For ease of access
Wash hands thoroughly, using soap and water	To minimise risk of cross infection
Remove prosthesis by: Request patient to 'look upwards'	For ease of access to the prosthesis
Expose lower edge of prosthesis by gently pulling lower lid down	For ease of removal

<p>Request patient to 'look downwards'</p> <p>Remove prosthesis from patients cheek</p> <p>Clean prosthesis in sodium chloride 0.9% sachets in gallipot</p> <p>NB recommended care of prosthesis at home is soap and water. <u>NEVER</u> use chemical cleansers, disinfectants or detergents. Except if prescribed by Ophthalmic Consultants</p> <p>Insert prosthesis by:</p> <p> Take prosthesis from gallipot</p> <p> Request patient to look downwards</p> <p> Insert shell (which should be wet) under upper eye lid and gently slide the prosthesis under the lid as far as comfortably possible</p> <p> Request the patient to look up gently position lower edge of prosthesis into lower conjunctival fornix</p> <p>Any prescribed medication should be instilled as normal after the procedure</p> <p>Record and findings</p>	<p>To maintain hygiene To avoid cross infection</p> <p>To avoid permanent damage to the surface of the prosthesis</p> <p>For patients who have had previous problems with socket</p> <p>For easy, comfortable re insertion of prosthesis</p> <p>To minimise risk of infection To administer prescribed treatment</p> <p>To maintain accurate records</p>
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