

## Care Instructions after Child Cataract Surgery

Your child will have an eye shield taped on after the surgery. **Do not remove the eye shield** until Dr. Hidaji sees your child the morning after surgery. Tylenol is safe to use for pain relief. Keep your child's hands clean, and keep the eyes dry for one week. Do not bathe your child until Dr. Hidaji sees you in the office. If you are bathing your child, try to avoid dirty water from splashing into the eyes. Use clean water to wash your child's hair, and hold the head back to keep the eyes dry. Keep the eye shield taped on at all times except to put in drops.

Dr. Hidaji will prescribe eye drops for your child to use starting the day after surgery. **Take great care not to place any pressure on the operated eye** when putting the drops in. The safest way to put drops in is to lay your child on the ground face up. Without touching the eye, put a drop in the inside corner, and wait until your child opens his or her eyes. The drop will go in, and it is ok if some of the medicine runs down your child's cheek. If you are having problems getting the drops in, please call Dr. Hidaji.

### **When can my child eat?**

Your child will probably feel hungry right after surgery, but he or she will probably not hold down a big meal. Start out with a popsicle or clear juice. If your child does not get sick to his or her stomach, then try a milkshake or light snack. A few hours after surgery, you can try a full meal.

### **Should I let my child play?**

Let your child play whenever he or she feels up to it. However, supervise your child closely, and stop the play if your child is at risk of bumping or poking the eye. You should keep your child from playing in dirty areas for a week (for example, sandboxes, public play areas, swimming pools).

### **When can my child return to school?**

Because the operated eye is very vulnerable to injury after surgery, do not send your child to school until Dr. Hidaji clears him/her at the one week post-op check.

### **When should I call the doctor?**

Dr. Hidaji wants you to call if you are uncomfortable with how your child is doing or think your child may be having a problem.

### **CALL THE OFFICE at 901-754-3937 IF:**

Your child has severe eye pain.

There is thick yellow discharge coming from the eyes.

Your child has a fever higher than 101 degrees

The eyelids start to swell or become red.

**Anything** is getting worse - pain, discharge, eyelid swelling, vision.

The eye is hit or traumatized after surgery.