### **USEFUL INFORMATION**

Never leave the eye in a facial tissue, since it can be mistakenly discarded.

Always wipe the eye towards the nose. Wiping outwards may dislodge the prosthesis. Try not to rub the eye as rubbing may cause it to rotate out of position.

When looking at people learn to turn your head rather then your eyes. This reduces conspicuousness when movement of the eye is limited.

A certain amount of yellowish discharge from the socket is not unusual within the first week. However, should this become excessive please contact Artificial Eyes.

Your first ocular prosthesis (after enucleation or evisceration) may need to be replaced after twelve months as the socket settles and becomes larger. You will find the eye lids will start to close down over the acrylic eye. There after it is recommended your prosthetic eye be replaced every three to five years.

If swimming in the surf you should wear an old eye or small swim goggles as the artificial eye can be dislodged by the force of water. If using goggles, only remove them once you are out of the water, preferably standing over a towel. **WARNING!** Never clean or soak your artificial eye in alcohol, autoclave, or boil it, because it will crack the plastic and destroy the ocular prosthesis

Remove the ocular prosthesis only when necessary. Too much handling can cause socket irritation and result in excessive secretions.



## **Artificial Eyes**

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# Care of your

# Artificial Eye





#### CARE OF YOUR NEW ARTIFICIAL EYE

After you receive your new artificial eye (ocular prosthesis), there are a few things you should know about caring for and handling it properly:

#### Removing your prosthetic eye.

Before removing your prosthesis first wash and rinse your hands thoroughly.

To remove your artificial eye open your eye lids with your thumb and forefinger. Place a moist suction cup (provided from Artificial Eyes when a prosthesis is purchased) on the front of the eye. Look up, pull down the lower lid, and slide the prosthesis out and downwards over the lower lid using the suction cup handle.

If you do not have your suction cup, look up, depress the lower lid with the forefinger and move the finger away from the nose. The prosthesis will slide out over the lower lid. Hold the palm of one hand below the eye so you can catch it when it dislodges. Always remove the eye over carpet as it can slip if dropped onto tiles or into a wash basin.

### Cleaning.

Your new artificial eye may be cleaned with mild soap or "hard contact" lens cleaning solution. This will remove most of the surface accumulations and reduce irritation to the eyelids. Make certain you rinse it thoroughly before reinserting. Regular tap water is perfectly acceptable for this procedure.

You should have your plastic artificial eye polished by your Artificial Eyes Ocularist every six to twelve months or more often if a special problem exists, such as excessive discharge, poor eye lid action, or if you do not remove the eye yourself. The cleaning and polishing not only adds to the lifetime of the prosthesis but also improves comfort and restores the luster for a more natural lifelike appearance.

#### To replace the eye.

Pull the top eyelid upwards using one finger to form a pocket to accommodate the eye. Insert the eye under the top lid and while keeping light upwards pressure on the prosthesis, gently pull the lower lid down two or three times. The eye will slide into position behind the lids.

## REMOVING THE PROSTHESIS

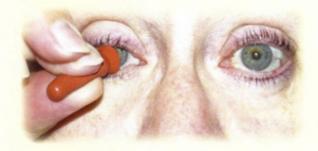
## Without a Suction Cup

Pull down the lower lid with your index finger, look up and allow the prosthesis to slide out over the lower lid.



## With a Suction Cup

Wet the cup, squeeze the stem, and press it against the prosthesis. Relax the squeeze and confirm the cup grips.



Hold down the lower lid as you tilt the prosthesis out and over the lower lid.



## INSERTING THE PROSTHESIS

Wash the prosthesis between your hands with a non-abrasive, fragrance and moisturizer free soap and hot water. Hold the prosthesis between your thumb and middle finger. Lift the upper lid with your other hand.



Gently slide the top of the prosthesis under the upper lid.



Hold the prosthesis in place with your index finger as you pull down the lower lid with your other hand.

