

Dilating Eye Drops For Adults

What are dilating eye drops?

Dilating eye drops are used to enlarge the pupil in the eye. This helps us make a thorough examination of the eye.

Why are dilating drops necessary?

A large pupil allows for a better examination of the internal structures of the eye in order to properly diagnose and treat eye diseases.

How are drops instilled?

Once the initial examination of vision has been completed, drops are usually administered into both eyes. Local anaesthetic drops may be administered first to help with the slight discomfort or stinging from the dilating drops.

How long do dilating drops last?

The effects of dilating drops used during the examination can vary but usually last for 4 to 6 hours. Dilated pupils tend to persist longer in people with lighter coloured eyes.

What are the effects of dilating drops?

Blurred vision, especially for near tasks is inevitable, as is some mild light sensitivity. Sun glasses may be helpful after a dilated eye exam. For your safety we advise you not to drive after a dilated eye exam. Allergic reactions are extremely rare.



Fig. 2 Pharmacologically dilated pupil.