

Ab interno canaloplasty for open-angle glaucoma

Information for the public

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There is not enough evidence about how well this procedure works long term. So it can only be done with special arrangements. This means you will have regular appointments afterwards to check how well it is working or if it has caused problems.

Open-angle glaucoma is a progressive condition that causes increased pressure in the eye. This damages the nerve that connects the eye to the brain and may lead to permanent sight loss. This procedure involves making a small cut in the eye (ab interno) and inserting a tiny tube into the channel that drains fluid from the eye. The tube widens the drainage channel (canaloplasty), then gel is injected into it and the tube is removed. The gel keeps the channel wider for a few days then dissolves, leaving the channel permanently wider to allow excess fluid to drain away. The aim is to reduce pressure in the eye. The NHS website may have information on your condition and treatment options.

You can search the NHS website for information about consultants and hospitals that offer this procedure.

Is this procedure right for me?

You should be included in [making decisions about your care](#).

Your healthcare professionals should explain the risks and benefits of this procedure and how it is done. They should discuss your options and listen carefully to your views and concerns. They should offer you more information about the procedure. Your family or carers can be involved if you want or need them to be.

You will be asked to decide whether you agree (consent) to have the procedure. Find out more about [giving consent to treatment on the NHS website](#).

Some questions to think about

- How many appointments will I need?
- What are the possible benefits? How likely am I to get them?
- What are the risks or side effects? How likely are they?
- Will I have to stay in hospital?
- What happens if it does not work or something goes wrong?
- What happens if I do not want the procedure?
- Are other treatments available?

Information and support

- [NICE's information on interventional procedures guidance](#) explains what an interventional procedure is and how we assess it.
- [NICE's information on interventional procedures recommendations](#) explains what special arrangements are.

You can also get support from your local [Healthwatch](#).

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