

Cyclopentolate eye drops

Cyclopentolate 0.5% or 1% eye drops are commonly used. The drops allow your child's optometrist to obtain a more accurate reading of the focusing power of your child's eyes by stopping them focusing on objects close to them. They also widen the pupil of their eye.

The drops take about 30 minutes to work and the effect may last for up to 24 hrs

Your child should not undertake potentially hazardous activities such as cycling until their vision has returned to normal.

Having large pupils will make your child more sensitive to light, especially if it is sunny. Objects close to them will appear blurred and they may have difficulty seeing their schoolwork clearly. They should be able to see close work again after a few hours. Sometimes distant objects might also seem blurred.

In the unlikely event that your child experiences any unusual symptoms contact your optometrist or seek medical advice as your child might be experiencing an adverse reaction to the drops. Unusual symptoms include pain or redness in or around their eyes, feeling disorientated, incoherent speech, visual disturbances, racing pulse or palpitations.