



Patient & Family Guide
2021

Uveitis/Iritis



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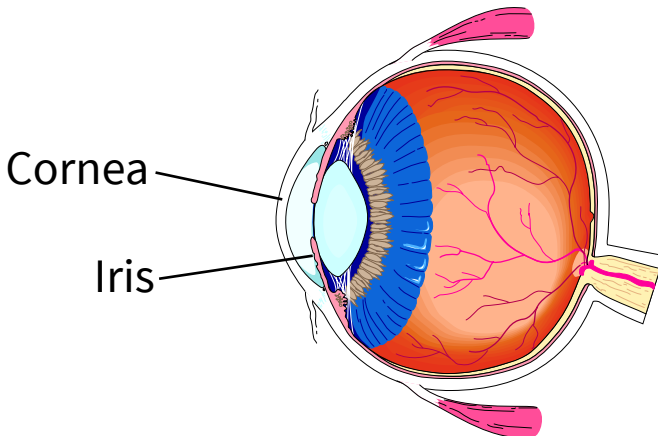
Uveitis/Iritis

What is uveitis/iritis?

- Uveitis (u-vee-I-tis) is inflammation (swelling) of the eye, similar to arthritis, but in the eye.
- Iritis (i-RYE-tis) is a type of uveitis. The inflammation is in the area of the iris, at the front of the eye.

What are the symptoms?

- › Pain
- › Sensitive to light
- › Red eye
- › Blurred vision (like looking through a snowstorm)



What is the treatment?

Your eye doctor will give you a prescription for eye drops to use at home:

- Steroid eye drops for inflammation
- A “dilating drop” to keep the pupil enlarged (widened)
 - › This will blur your vision.
 - › This will help your eye rest.
 - › This prevents your iris from sticking to your cornea or your lens.

Talk to your eye doctor before you stop taking drops.

What else do I need to know?

- If this is not your first time having uveitis, you will need tests to rule out any related illnesses.
- Tell your eye doctor if you have any of the following conditions:
 - › Crohn’s disease, ulcerative colitis, or bowel trouble
 - › Psoriasis or other skin conditions
 - › Low back pain

- › Chronic mouth or genital ulcers
- › Bladder infections that come back
- › Trouble breathing or a chronic cough (does not go away)
- › Numbness or tingling (anywhere in your body)
- › Any other chronic disease

Looking for more health information?

Find this pamphlet and all our patient resources here: <https://library.nshealth.ca/PatientEducation>

Contact your local public library for books, videos, magazines, and other resources.

For more information, go to <http://library.novascotia.ca>

Connect with a registered nurse in Nova Scotia any time: call 811 or visit <https://811.novascotia.ca>

Learn about other programs and services in your community: call 211 or visit <http://ns.211.ca>

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The information in this pamphlet is to be updated every 3 years or as needed.