

Danger Signals of Possible Graft Rejection Following Transplantation

If your body begins to reject your cornea, or if other problems occur, there is a good chance for successful treatment IF YOU ACT IMMEDIATELY. If any of the four danger signals do occur and last for more than six hours-DO NOT WAIT! Contact your doctor, even if it is Sunday, July 4th or during the Superbowl. You can remember the danger signals by the initials RSVP. You should call the doctor when there is any increase in:

R = REDNESS OF THE EYE
S = SENSITIVITY TO LIGHT
V = VISION LOSS
P = PAIN

R = Redness of The Eye

Though your operated eye will be red for the first few weeks after surgery, you may be having a problem if the redness increases. You can check for redness by looking in the mirror yourself, or a family member or friend can help you. Gently pull down your lower lid and look for increased redness on the white of the eye, especially around the colored portion of the eye (iris).

S = Sensitivity to Light

After surgery your eye will be more sensitive to light for a few weeks. If your eye becomes more sensitive to light than it has been, and you have to squint to be comfortable, call your doctor.

V = Vision Loss

When you first return home after removal of the patch from your operated eye, pick a familiar object around the house, such as a shower curtain, picture or face of a clock. Cover your non-operated eye and look at the object each day. Your vision will change slightly from day to day, however, if your test object appears obviously more cloudy or less distinct than it has been, call your doctor.

P = Pain

Small temporary twinges of pain are to be expected following eye surgery. If your eye hurts or throbs steadily for more than a few hours, call your doctor. Often, patients who have a transplant rejection state that their eye “feels different” without calling it “painful”. If your eye begins to feel different than it has, call your doctor.

We prefer to see you more often than not often enough. It is far better to call if you think you might be feeling any of the danger signals than to ignore them. Do not wait for your scheduled appointment – you must be seen as soon as possible if you develop a transplant rejection. **DO NOT DELAY!**

Please do not hesitate to call the doctor or his staff if any of these warning signs occur or if you have any questions! Our phones are answered 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Call 816-531-9100 or 877-828-2373 to speak with the doctor or nurse.