

## **What is Entropion:**

This is a condition where in the eye lid ( more commonly lower) starts turning inwards so that the eye lashes rub against the eye ball causing symptoms such as grittiness, discomfort, redness, stickiness and discharge. It can also cause more serious problems like corneal abrasion or ulcer.

## **Why does Entropion Occur:**

The commonest reason is age related changes in the skin and tissues of the eye lid. Other causes are spasm of muscle, infection, scarring etc. or less commonly a congenital defect.

## **What is the treatment :**

Non-surgical treatment may work in certain conditions like spasm of muscle . In most cases surgical treatment is required. Depending on the cause of the condition the surgical procedure may vary but in the main consists of tightening of tissues along with turning out of the eye lid.

The procedure is commonly performed under a local anaesthetic as a day case. It would involve skin incision, shortening and tightening of tissues and stitching. The stitches are generally left to dissolve but can be removed if too tight or causing infection, irritation etc. Post operatively an ointment will need to be applied to the eye lid and the eye for a few weeks. There may also be some drops to be instilled in the eye for a period of few weeks.

## **Complications:**

Bruising and swelling are normal consequence and resolve in a week or two. There is a risk of bleeding in the initial 48 hours or so. Sometimes the wound or stitches get infected with a need for additional antibiotics. Scarring can occur but generally fades over time.

Occasionally there may be an over or under correction of the condition which may need additional procedure in the early period.

The most important complication is a possibility of recurrence, which can be corrected with further surgery.