

Patient information - medical retina and uveitis services

Ozurdex® - for patients with macular oedema or uveitis

Ozurdex® has been approved by the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) to treat patients with macular oedema (swelling of the back part of the eye) due to uveitis, branch retinal vein occlusion, central retinal vein occlusion or diabetic macular oedema.

How can Ozurdex® help treat macular oedema?

The retina is the light sensitive tissue that lines the back of your eye and is responsible for your eyesight. Macular oedema, a swelling and thickening of the macula, is caused by one of the eye disorders listed above. The macula is a small area in the centre of your retina that contains a rich collection of nerve cells sensitive to light, fine detail, and colour.

When the small vessels in the macula leak fluid, this forms a macular oedema or swelling of the retina, as well as causing loss of blood flow and inflammation. All these processes lead to painless reduction of vision in the affected eye.

Ozurdex can also be used to treat patients with uveitis (inflammation of

the inside of the eye) without macular oedema. Ozurdex® contains dexamethasone, which is slowly released into your eye as the implant dissolves (biodegrades). Dexamethasone belongs to a group of drugs called potent corticosteroids, and has been shown to reduce inflammation, oedema, and thickening of the retina, therefore improving vision.

Will Ozurdex® treatment fully restore my vision?

There is an approximately **50% chance** of your vision improving with this treatment. If you decide to undergo treatment, both you and your eye doctor will need to sign and date the informed consent form. You will receive a copy to take home with you.

How is Ozurdex administered?

Ozurdex® is a small biodegradable implant which is administered via a special applicator with a needle. It is delivered as an ophthalmic intravitreal injection. This means that it is injected into your eye. Sufficient local anaesthetic is administered prior to the Ozurdex® injection to ensure that you do not feel pain during the injection.

