

Amniotic membrane transplantation applied with a specialised bandage contact lens

Patient information leaflet



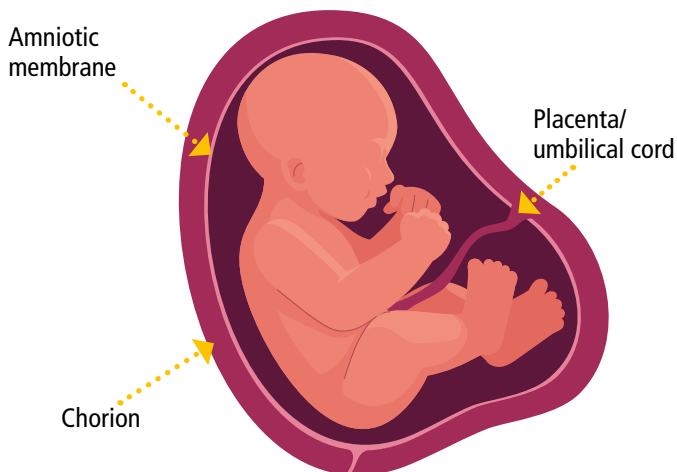
Introduction and Purpose

This leaflet will give you information that will help you decide if you would like to undergo amniotic membrane transplantation. This leaflet will also explain what will happen if you decide to go ahead with the treatment. You may want to discuss the treatment with a relative or carer.

Before you undergo treatment, you will be asked to give your consent for the treatment by your clinician, so it is important that you fully understand the leaflet before you decide to have the treatment. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to speak to your clinical team.

What is Amniotic Membrane Transplantation?

The amniotic membrane used in this procedure comes from the inner layer of the placental bag that surrounds the baby when growing in the womb. It is collected from women undergoing a planned caesarean section, who have given full voluntary informed consent. The tissue is washed and preserved into a thin, dry sheet that can be applied to your eye with a special contact lens. Amniotic membrane transplantation is a treatment that can help stabilise the eye and reduce pain¹. The amniotic membrane is cleaned in a solution of antibiotics and antimycotics during the preparation process. If you have any known allergies, you should inform your clinician before treatment.



What will happen during my amniotic membrane transplantation?

The amniotic membrane is applied to the front of your eye using a special bandage contact lens. Your clinician will use an anaesthetic eye drop to numb the front of your eye before applying the treatment to reduce discomfort. The aim of treatment is to help stabilise your eye and reduce your sensation of pain. The treatment will also prevent the worsening of inflammation.



Once the contact lens is on the eye, you may be able to feel it in place, this is nothing to worry about. The decision on how long the amniotic membrane needs to stay on your eye will be determined by your clinician.

What to do during treatment?

While the treatment is in place, it is essential you follow these instructions:

- Do not rub or hit the eye.
- Avoid getting your eyes and around your eyes wet when showering or washing your face.
- Do not attempt to reapply the contact lens if it falls out of your eye. Seek assistance from your clinician.
- Do not go swimming, in a hot tub or undergo water sports with the treatment in your eye.
- Do not wear make-up around the eyes when the treatment is in place.

If you use any eye drops, your clinician will let you know if you need to change your regime whilst the treatment is in place. Vision may be affected so it is best to avoid driving or operating machinery during this period.

Your Expectations

If you normally wear contact lenses to correct your vision, you will need to wear glasses during your treatment. Please be aware that the quality of your vision may be affected during this time.

Risks of Amniotic Membrane Transplantation

The amniotic membrane used in this procedure is processed in a way to reduce the risk of any infection to the patient. All donors are tested for a range of infectious diseases. However, with any tissue transplant, there is still a small chance of viral infection as emerging viruses and prions cannot be tested for. However, do not worry, the risk of infection is low but should be considered.

Risks of Contact Lens Wear

Contact lens wear can rarely cause complications when worn overnight as they are in this procedure. If your eye becomes more painful or your vision is further reduced, contact the clinical staff in control of your care.

What if I experience pain or discomfort?

If at any point during your treatment with amniotic membrane, you experience severe pain or discomfort, please contact your care provider immediately.

