



Entropion

Entropion refers to an inward turning of the lower eyelid. It causes the eyelashes and lid skin to rub against the surface of the eye, causing discomfort. If left untreated it can lead to the ulceration of the surface of the eye, followed by scarring which could cause loss of vision.

What causes an entropion?

Lower lid entropion is usually due to ageing changes in the eyelid making it lax (loose) and prone to flipping inwards. To begin with the entropion can be present intermittently (sometimes) but it often becomes constant later on. Entropion can also be caused by infection (e.g. trachoma), disease or injury.

What are the signs and symptoms?

The most obvious sign of an entropion is an inward turning lower lid. Patients may experience irritation and pain on the front of the eye, excessive tearing, burning sensation and a red eye.

What is the treatment for entropion?

Artificial tears may temporarily relieve the irritation from an entropion; however, eyelid surgery to stiffen the lower lid and pull it outwards is usually necessary to fully correct this problem. There are a few different surgical approaches available and your ophthalmologist will discuss the best option for you at your consultation.

