

Informed consent for Avastin™ (bevacizumab) intravitreal injection

Eye surgeons treat some types of eye problems with a medication called Avastin. Avastin can help decrease vision loss due to 2 types of eye problems:

- 1) the growth of harmful blood vessels in your eyes
- 2) swelling in the back of the eye (macular edema).

When eye surgeons treat eye problems with Avastin, its use is considered “off-label.”

That means the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved Avastin for treating a different disease (in this case, colon cancer), not eye problems. Eye surgeons now use Avastin off-label because they have found it can help slow the growth of harmful eye blood vessels and lessen swelling that decreases vision.

Avastin is given by an injection (shot) into the back of your eye. The eye surgeon may put eye drops to enlarge the pupil (black circle) in the center of your eye to see the back of your eye clearly. Next, the eye surgeon will numb your eye as much as possible so that you do not feel pain. Then the eye surgeon injects Avastin into the back part of your eye. Most patients need Avastin injections about every 4 weeks because its effect wears off over time. Your eye surgeon will tell you how often you will need Avastin injections.

You may have some minor problems right after the injection. Your eye may be irritated and make a lot of tears for a few hours. The white part of your eye might turn bright red. This is from a small amount of bleeding on the surface of your eye. It will not change how well you see. It will usually clear up in about a week.

Tell the eye surgeon right away if you notice any other problems after the injection.

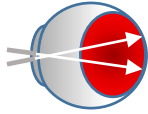
Problems can include an eye infection, eye pain, blurry or decreased vision, being extra sensitive to light, eye redness, and pus or other discharge coming from the eye. You can help prevent or reduce these problems:

- Do not rub your eyes or go swimming for 3 days after each injection.
- Call your surgeon right away if you notice any of these problems.
- Keep all appointments with your eye surgeon.

Benefits (how this medication can help). The goal of using Avastin for eye problems is to prevent more vision loss. But Avastin may not bring back vision loss that happened before treatment.

Alternatives (choices and options). Avastin is not the only option. Your other treatment choices may include:

- No treatment. If you decide not to have treatment, then your eye problems can quickly get worse. You could have more vision loss or even blindness.
- Medications approved by the FDA for treating your type of eye problem.
- Other medications approved by the FDA for a different condition.
- Your doctor will tell you how these medications could help and the risks they might cause.



Risks (problems this medication may cause). As with all medications, there are risks from getting Avastin injections in the eye. These risks can cause vision loss or blindness. Avastin might not improve your vision. Your vision may get worse.

Intravitreal injections can cause other eye problems such as:

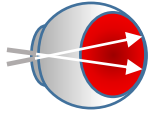
- an eye infection
 - detached retina (the light-sensitive part of the back of your eye might get pulled off)
 - cataracts (clouding of the eye's lens)
 - glaucoma (increased eye pressure)
 - hypotony (reduced eye pressure)
 - retina or cornea damage
 - bleeding within the eye
 - any or all of the above may cause complete loss of vision and even loss of eye
- Some patients taking this medication have had heart attack, stroke, or death. The FDA does not know if the medicine caused these problems. Patients with diabetes may have these problems more often. Tell your eye surgeon if you have had a heart attack or stroke.
 - Eye problems from Avastin can appear days, weeks, months, or even years after your injection. The costs to treat these are not included in the fee you pay for the Avastin injection.

By signing below, you consent (agree) that:

- You read this informed consent form or had it read to you.
- The eye surgeon or staff member explained that you have harmful blood vessels or swelling in the back of your eye.
- The eye surgeon or staff member answered your questions about using Avastin to treat your eye problem. He or she also explained what it means to use Avastin "off-label."
- You consent to have the eye surgeon inject Avastin into your _____ ("right," "left", or "both") eye(s).
- You consent to keep having Avastin injections unless you tell your eye surgeon that you no longer want the medication or your eye problems change so much that there are new risks and benefits to discuss with the eye surgeon.

Patient or Authorized Individual Signature

Date



WHAT TO EXPECT AFTER YOUR INJECTION

- Immediately after your injection you will see floaters or black spots. This is the medication or air bubbles inside of the eye.
- Your vision may remain blurry for a few days.
- You may experience mild discomfort in your eye after the treatment. Keeping your eye closed or using artificial tears will help lessen any tearing or discomfort. Your eye should feel better within 24-48 hours after the procedure.
- Your eye may be red at the injection site or you may have a hemorrhage under the outer membrane of the eye (on the white part of the eye.) This is common and not considered a complication. This may take a few days to go away.

OTHER INSTRUCTIONS

- Do not wear eye makeup, contact lens or swim for 3 days.
- If the eye becomes light sensitive, painful or a decrease in vision occurs, please call our office immediately at (334) 521-0041 or (706) 221-9702.
- Leave the patch on the eye till the next morning.
- Do not splash water on face or hair for 4 days (use a cloth to wash your face).
- DO NOT RUB THE EYE!!