

Iritis (anterior uveitis)

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Other formats

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What is iritis (anterior uveitis)?

Iritis (anterior uveitis) is an inflammation of the coloured part of your eye called the iris.

What causes iritis?

The precise causes of iritis are often difficult to identify. A small number of people who suffer from iritis have other inflammatory disorders of the body. If you have more than one episode of iritis, the doctor might ask you to have a blood test. In many people, no other related inflammatory conditions are identified.

What are the symptoms?

The symptoms you may experience include;

Pain, often an aching feeling

Redness

Sensitivity to light

Blurred vision

Excessive watering

How is it treated?

The treatment is usually in the form of eye drops to use during the day. In addition, ointment may be prescribed at night. Steroid drops and ointment are used to reduce the inflammation. Your steroid drops will be prescribed frequently initially, and then gradually reduced over a period of time as the inflammation in your eye settles. You may expect to use your steroid drops for at least four or five weeks.

A dilating drop is used to enlarge the pupil; this will prevent the inflamed iris reacting to light and will make your eye feel more

