

Retinal Laser Info Sheet

What is Retinal Laser?

Retinal laser is a treatment for retinal tears, or new and abnormal retinal blood vessel growth.

Preparation

- Please allow up to two hours for the appointment.
- You will be dilated the day of the laser treatment. Please have someone drive you to and from the clinic and be aware that your vision will be blurry for a few hours following the laser treatment.
- Tylenol and/or anxiety medication is not necessary, but it is okay to take one an hour prior to your scheduled appointment time.

What To Expect

- You will receive drops to dilate your eyes.
- A contact lens will be placed on the eye to keep the eye open and help to visualize the retina and apply the laser treatment.
- Applying the laser can take up to 15-20 minutes depending on the extent of the affected area.
- It is normal to feel some pain during the course of the laser.

After Retinal Laser

- Temporary hazy and/or coloured vision, eye discomfort, and light sensitivity after the laser are normal.
- No patching or eye drops are required after retinal laser
- Please plan to avoid strenuous exercise, heavy lifting, or bending over for one week after laser retinopexy.
- If you experience an increase in floaters/flashes of light or a curtain over your vision, please contact the clinic.
- If it is after hours or the weekend, please present to Hotel Dieu Emergency Department to be evaluated by the on-call ophthalmology resident.