

PHARMACY INFORMATION: Autologous Serum Eye Drops

What are Serum Eye Drops?

Autologous means the patient will have his or her own blood drawn to be used for the compounding of serum eye drops. Blood serum is composed of key vitamins, growth factors and proteins, a similar mixture to our natural tears. This tailored therapy is something artificial eye drops can't replicate and may be beneficial to patients with severe dry eye or other ophthalmic conditions.

How is the medication prepared?

The eye drops are compounded under sterile conditions using the patient's serum at a ratio prescribed by the provider.

- 20% serum solution will yield 40 bottles
- 50% serum solution will yield 20 bottles

How is the medication supplied?

Your dropper bottles are not completely full and will vary in volume from bottle to bottle. We depend on the amount of serum provided to us by your lab and will try our best to evenly distribute that amount. Each bottle will have 3-5mL of fluid (60-100 drops) to last the 7 days.

What ingredients are in Serum Eye Drops?

Compounded serum eye drops are preservative free and contain the patient's serum diluted with sterile normal saline.

How do I store the medication and how long is it good for?

Store all of the dropper bottles in the freezer (-25° to -10° C) and do not use past the beyond use date on the label. Take one bottle out at a time and store in the refrigerator (2° to 8° C) for a maximum of 7 days. Record dates of newly opened bottles and log administration times for your own safety.

What steps do I take to get a refill?

If you have refills, call the pharmacy at 330-707-9001. If there are no refills, we will need to obtain a new prescription from the provider. In addition, you will

need to get another blood draw from the lab. Please call the lab in advance for that you may need a physician order for the blood draw. Please remind the lab to call the pharmacy at 330-707-9001 once the serum is obtained. We will send a driver within 3 business days to pick up the serum. After the pharmacy receives the serum and it is compounded, one of our sterile technicians will call the patient to go over pricing and to schedule a delivery date.

How often is virology testing done?

Virology testing for HIV, Hep B, and Hep C will only need to be done once a year.

Can other drugs affect my therapy?

Yes. Talk to your doctor or pharmacist before starting or stopping any new prescription medicine, over the counters, vitamins or herbal supplements. Please follow your doctor's orders regarding the use of other eye drops or artificial tears while using serum eye drops.

What if I miss a dose?

Take it as soon as you remember. If it is almost time for the next scheduled dose, use only that dose. Do not use an extra dose to make up for the missed one. Try to use the eye drops the same time each day in a consistent manner.

Keep in mind the following:

- ✓ Do not share eye drops with anyone. This is a blood product.
- ✓ Relief from the eye drops are usually seen in the first few weeks of therapy.
- ✓ Please call in your refill to the pharmacy and have your blood drawn at the lab a couple weeks before you run out of medication.
- ✓ Do not use any thawed bottles in the fridge for longer than 7 days. Discard the bottle even if there is serum leftover.
- ✓ Discard any frozen or refrigerated bottles past the beyond use date on the label.
- ✓ Place the bottle back in the refrigerator after administration.

How to Use Eye Drops:

(Using a mirror or having someone else give you the eye drops may make this procedure easier)

1. Wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water.



2. Check the dropper tip to make sure that it is not chipped or cracked.

3. Avoid touching the dropper tip against your eye or anything else – eye drops and droppers must be kept clean.

4. While tilting your head back, pull down the lower lid of your eye with your index finger to form a pocket.



5. Hold the dropper (tip down) with the other hand, as close to the eye as possible without touching it.



6. Brace the remaining fingers of that hand against your face.

7. While looking up, gently squeeze the dropper so that a single drop falls into the pocket made by the lower eyelid. Remove your index finger from the lower eyelid.



8. Close your eye for 2 to 3 minutes. Try not to blink or squeeze your eyelids.

9. Place a finger on the tear duct and apply gentle pressure.

10. Wipe any excess liquid from your face with a tissue.

11. If you are to use more than one drop in the same eye, wait at least 5 minutes before instilling the next drop.

12. Replace and tighten the cap on the dropper bottle. Do not wipe or rinse the dropper tip.

13. Wash your hands to remove any medication.

Reminders:

- * Please administer the eye drops exactly as prescribed by your provider.
- * Do not forget to put the dropper bottle back in the fridge after administration.
- * Please call RC Compounding or your doctor regarding any questions on administration technique.