

# Endophthalmitis

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This material will help you understand endophthalmitis, its causes, and how it can be treated.

## **What is endophthalmitis?**

Endophthalmitis is an infection that is inside of the eye. This causes eye tissue to become painful and red. It also causes your vision to become blurry. The tissues of the eye are very sensitive and delicate. An infection inside the eye is a very serious condition and may lead to vision loss.

## **What can cause endophthalmitis?**

Endophthalmitis is typically caused by bacteria or fungi from the outside getting into your eye. It can also sometimes be caused by infections in the blood. The inside of the eye is normally sealed and protected from these organisms. However, certain events can increase the chance that they might enter and infect your eye. These events include:

- Eye trauma
- Eye surgery, especially for cataracts and glaucoma
- Injections into the eye

## **How is endophthalmitis treated?**

Depending on the nature of your condition, a few different treatments may be used to cure the infection. This includes antibiotics that are inserted directly into your eye and/or taken orally. The doctor may also prescribe eye drops to help reduce the inflammation. If the infection is severe, your eye doctor may

perform a vitrectomy surgery, which removes the material containing the infection from inside of the eye.

You and your doctor will discuss the treatment option that is best for you.

**For more information, scan this code with your smartphone or visit the website listed**



<http://www.kellogg.umich.edu/patientcare/conditions/endophthalmitis.html>

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