

Eye floaters

What to expect from retinal clinic consultation?

During the consultation I have to examine both the front and back of your eyes

*I usually use **pupil dilation drops** so that I can examine the lens and the retina, including the optic nerve. Your vision will be blurred during at least 2 hours (up to 6 hours) after drops, so you will not be able to drive after consultation for that period of time.*

***OCT scan** of the retina could be done the same day of the consultation and it gives an accurate information of health of the macula, it helps to predict visual results after surgery.*

***Eye floaters** are grey cobwebs-like spots in the vision that move when we move our eyes and appear to dart away when you try to look at them directly, they are mainly age-related changes that occur as the jelly-like substance-vitreous inside of the eye becomes more liquid. A sudden increase in eye floaters needs to be seen by the eye specialist as soon as possible — especially if they accompanied by light flashes or peripheral vision shadow or “curtain” like visual field deterioration, retinal detachment needs to be excluded in the presence of these new appeared symptoms. A longstanding transparent string of floaters when we move our eyes could be moved quickly out of your visual field. These floaters are most noticeable when we look at a plain bright blue sky or a white wall. Most of the floaters eventually settle down and drift out of the line of vision*

***Indication for surgery:** when these degenerative floaters don't disappear and interfere with the driving and daily activities, they may need a Vitrectomy surgery to be removed.*

Surgery

As for any other retinal surgery small (gauge 3) ports which are self-healing (no need for stitches) are used to introduce the instruments and perform a Vitrectomy (removal of the vitreous and vitreous floaters). The Retina is examined to exclude any tears and a bubble of air or gas is left to support the retina nicely during the following few days after the operation, which disappears gradually in several days and the vision is back to normal towards the 10th days after the surgery.

***Follow-ups** are needed during the first week and also week 3-4 and 8 weeks after the surgery*

***Airplane travels** are contraindicated during the period of 14 days after the surgery*

***Antibiotic topical** drops need to be used to prevent infection*

***Driving** is advised only after the first 2 weeks*

***Sport activities, gym, gardening** and other physical activities are recommended after the antibiotic drops are finished, after 4 weeks post-surgery*