

What is a conjunctival naevus?

A collection of pigmented cells within the conjunctiva, the thin membrane covering the white of the eye, similar in principle to a mole on the skin. Many appear in childhood or early adulthood and remain stable for years. Most are entirely benign.

Do you need treatment?

Most conjunctival naevi do not need removing. A typical, stable lesion can be photographed and monitored indefinitely. Treatment may be considered when its appearance troubles you and examination confirms laser is appropriate. If leaving it alone is the better option, we will say so.

Assessment comes before laser

The decisive question is not how the laser is applied but whether the lesion should be lasered at all. Your consultant assesses its appearance, pigmentation, position, thickness, cysts within it, blood vessels and any history of change. We do not laser a lesion simply because it is pigmented.

The limitation that matters most

Argon laser treats the pigment rather than removing an intact specimen, so there is no tissue for laboratory examination and no histological diagnosis is obtained. If there is diagnostic uncertainty, documented change, suspicious features or significant thickness, surgical excision is the correct treatment because it provides a specimen. We will recommend excision in that situation even though it is the more involved procedure.

What the argon laser does

Laser energy is absorbed by pigment within the naevus, and controlled applications progressively lighten the visible pigmentation. There is no incision and no stitch, and treatment is performed in the clinic rather than an operating theatre.

Baseline photography

Photographs are taken before treatment. They allow the result to be compared objectively rather than from memory, and they remain part of your permanent record as the reference point against which any future change is judged.

On the day

- Eat, drink and take your usual medication normally unless told otherwise.
- Anaesthetic drops numb the surface of the eye.
- You sit at the laser microscope as for a routine eye examination.
- The laser is applied precisely to the pigmented area. You see a bright light and brief flashes.
- Treatment is usually short and you go home the same day.

It can look worse before it looks better

The treated area can initially appear more noticeable rather than less. Redness, irritation, watering and temporary darkening or inflammation of the treated tissue are common early and are part of healing rather than a sign of failure. Use your drops exactly as directed.

Judging the result

Do not judge the cosmetic result immediately. The treated pigment changes and the surface settles over weeks, and at follow-up the appearance is compared directly with your pre-treatment photographs. Not every naevus clears completely: a realistic aim is a lesion that is substantially less noticeable rather than an eye returned to uniform white.

Further laser may be needed

Staged treatment is a deliberate feature of this pathway rather than a shortfall, and needing another session does not mean the previous one failed. Your initial treatment fee can include up to three laser sessions where further treatment is clinically appropriate, with eligibility running for 12 months from your first

treatment. There is no obligation to continue if the improvement achieved is sufficient for you.

Main risks

Temporary redness, irritation, inflammation and surface discomfort are common. Other risks include incomplete pigment clearance, residual or recurrent pigmentation, local scarring, persistent redness or prominent blood vessels, a change in the appearance of the treated conjunctiva, an imperfect cosmetic result and the need for further treatment.

Warning signs

Contact Blue Fin Vision® promptly for severe or increasing pain, rapidly worsening redness or swelling, discharge, a significant deterioration in vision or marked light sensitivity. In the years afterwards, arrange assessment for new growth, thickening, colour change or new blood vessels rather than waiting for a routine appointment.

Costs

Consultation and diagnostic assessment: £325. Current pricing is published online at [our published price list](#) and may change. Treatment for appearance is not normally covered by private medical insurance. You receive a written quotation before proceeding.

This page is a summary, not a consent document

It does not replace the full Argon Laser Conjunctival Naevus Removal patient information booklet, which contains the complete information on suitability, alternatives, treatment, recovery, risks and limitations, and which forms part of your informed consent alongside your discussion with your surgeon and your consent form. Please read the full booklet before your appointment. In full: [The Blue Fin Vision® Advantage](#)