

RESTASIS FACT SHEET

1. Restasis is a prescription medication. It is the only Food & Drug Administration approved drop that treats the cause of dry eyes, not just the symptoms.
2. The recommended dosage for Restasis is one drop 2 times a day. This is not a drop to be used “as needed”. It should be used on a regular basis to get the full affect.
3. When you first use Restasis, you may experience a little burning upon instillation. Approximately 17% of patients experience some burning. This does NOT mean it is damaging to the eye. The burning typically subsides after a few weeks of use. **Keeping the Restasis refrigerated helps to decrease the burning sensation.**
4. Restasis works by treating the inflammation associated with dry eyes. It may take a few weeks to get an initial effect. Studies show most patients will begin to feel better within 1-4 weeks. However, it may take 3-6 months to get the full effect so be patient.
5. You may use artificial tears with Restasis. You can continue to use artificial tears as much as you need to, but most patients will notice they need the artificial tears less as the Restasis starts to work. The only artificial tears you cannot use with Restasis are Endure and Soothe.
6. Restasis is one of the safest topical eye drops on the market. There are no reported cases of systemic side effects. You can use Restasis everyday for the rest of your life without concern.
7. Restasis can be used in patients wearing contact lenses. However, you should not install the Restasis while your contact lenses are in. Instill one drop of Restasis and wait 15 minutes prior to putting your contacts in. In the evening, you should place a drop of Restasis in the eye after the contacts have been removed
8. Please contact us if you have any questions about Restasis on your dry eyes.