

# ATROPINE DROP MYOPIA CONTROL PROGRAM

Welcome to the Atropine control program. You are beginning an exciting program designed to slow the progression of myopia.

This document in combination with the entire program and training process is designed to educate you regarding any potential risks. It is important to understand that it is impossible to perform any treatment without the patient accepting a certain degree of responsibility and risk. Atropine is an eye drop that must be taken each day consistently to help slow the progression of Myopia.

We appreciate the confidence and trust you have placed in us for your treatment and care. Please read this contract in its entirety and feel free to ask any questions you have. It is very important that you read this document carefully. Please initial where indicated. Do not sign this form until you have read and understand each section. If you have any questions, please write them on the back so you won't forget them.


## INFORMED CONSENT AND INTRODUCTION

### Introduction

**Until recently, doctors in the United States rarely used atropine eye drops for slowing myopia progression despite its proven success. This is because the concentration of atropine that is commercially available (1%) has significant side effects, such as dilated pupils, blurred vision, and light sensitivity. However, recent studies have demonstrated that daily instillation of low dose atropine (0.01% - 0.05%) was successful at slowing myopia in young children with few side effects and lower rates of rebound myopia when the drops are stopped.**

The doctors at Roosevelt Vision are generally recommending low dose atropine as one option for any myopic child between the ages of 6 - 12, whose level of myopia has increased by at least two to four steps (an increase of -0.50D to -1.00D) over the last 6-12 months. We may also consider using it in teenagers if their myopia is still progressing rapidly. The goal of using atropine is to slow down the rate of progression of myopia to reduce the overall amount of myopia your child ends up with. There is no way to completely stop the progression until your child is fully grown.

The atropine myopia control program is ideal for children/families who wish to continue to use traditional glasses and/or soft contact lenses as their primary method of vision correction while still reducing the risk of developing severe myopia.

\_\_\_\_\_  **I acknowledge I have read and fully understand the above information and possible side effects.**


### FDA Approval

Currently, these low concentrations of atropine are not available commercially or approved by the US Food and Drug Administration for treating myopia. Therefore, doctors must prescribe them for "off-label" use through a compounding pharmacy. Fortunately, one drop per day of low dose atropine is safe and well tolerated by most young patients. Should a child demonstrate any adverse side effects, the drops can be stopped at any time with no lasting effects.

\_\_\_\_\_  **I have read the above and understand that treatment is not approved by the FDA.**

### Ordering Atropine Drops

When you decide that you want your child to use atropine eye drops, your child's doctor will need to send a prescription for low dose atropine to a specialized pharmacy like **OSRx**. Once the pharmacy receives the prescription, a pharmacy representative will contact you by phone to authorize the purchase of these drops and confirm payment and shipping options. **The current annual price of low dose atropine eye drops is \$540**, paid in monthly installments of \$45 directly to OSRx (not billable to your insurance). Once the prescription has been sent to the pharmacy, it is your responsibility to follow up directly with the pharmacy to arrange free delivery through mail order.

\_\_\_\_\_  **I understand how to order atropine eyedrops.**

### Drop Schedule

Once you have received the medication, it is important to use the drops as prescribed—**instill one drop per day in both eyes**. It is also important to apply the eye drops at approximately the same time every day. Right before bed is an easy time to remember for many families and may lessen the chance of side effects during the day. Please read the information from the pharmacy to learn more about any rare or unusual side effects.

\_\_\_\_\_  **I understand the drop schedule.**

**Professional Fees and Follow-ups**

Your child will also need to be monitored more closely by his/her eye doctor after starting the atropine therapy. You will need to schedule two brief office follow-up visits during the first six months of treatment. The cost of initiation of treatment and follow-up appointments is a flat **\$450 fee**, paid in full at the first visit, and is non-refundable and not billable to insurance.

**Treatment Schedule:**

1. **Initial follow up** – typically one month after starting the eyedrops to verify that there are no adverse side effects.
2. **6 month follow up** – to recheck level of myopia to help track rate of progression.
3. **Annual Vision Exam** with your primary Optometrist  
\*6 month follow up if requested by provider at annual exam - **\$200**

Your child’s eye doctor will recommend resuming annual comprehensive eye examinations thereafter.

\_\_\_\_\_  **I understand the Professional Fees and Follow-ups.**

**VOLUNTARY CONSENT:**

I understand that using low dose atropine eye drops is a well-established, safe, and commonly prescribed treatment for slowing myopia progression, but it is considered “off-label,” therefore medical insurance will not cover the cost of the eye drops or the follow-up visits. I have read the information sheet and FAQs, and understand that there are no guarantees regarding the outcome or efficacy of using low dose atropine to slow myopia progression in my child. I understand that my child will still need glasses and/or contact lenses to see clearly, and that I can stop the atropine eye drops at any time, for any reason.

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Patient Name (Print)	Patient (Guardian if under 18) Signature	Date
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Doctor Full Name (Print)	Doctor Signature	Date
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