



Practice sting 2022-02

Practice sting Problems when instilling Nevanac® 3 mg/ml eye drops

Nevanac® 3 mg/ml eye drops are used, among other things, for pain relief after cataract surgery. Instilling these eye drops regularly causes problems in practice.

Notifications

Both VMI and Side Effects Center Lareb received reports of problems when administering Nevanac® 3 mg/ml eye drops. Two notifications are presented that show the two most important hurdles:

1. The viscosity of the liquid.

Quote: *'First of all, it is difficult to get a drop out the bottle, but if you do succeed, a tough drop/string comes out of the bottle, which is almost impossible to get in the eye but remains in the eyelashes.'*

2. The design of the dropper bottle.

Quote: *'If you're not super muscular, it's almost impossible to get a drop from this bottle. The packaging causes a lot of unnecessary stress.'*

Analysis

The viscosity of the eye drop is in practice an even bigger problem due to the packaging. A viscous liquid is more difficult to get out of the bottle than a less viscous liquid. Patients have to press lightly on the sides of the bottle. Patients experience the bottle as stiff. This makes instilling more difficult. In addition, cataract operations are mainly carried out in the elderly who often have impaired vision and decrease in muscle strength and fine motor skills.

Recommendations

For pharmacists

- When dispensing eye drops to patients, ensure that the pharmacy team provides clear eye drop instructions. In addition to the information in the package leaflet, use the protocol in the Pharmacy Information System or the information from eye hospitals.
- If possible, have the patient demonstrate how he or she instils the eye drops.
- Offer an aid to a patient who has difficulty with adequate instilling eye drops due to, for example, insufficient squeeze force or difficulty holding the instilling hand still.
- When dispensing a second time, ask explicitly how instilling works in practice.