

## **Important Safety Notice Regarding Over-the-Counter Artificial Tear Drops**

Recent safety alerts from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) have raised concerns about the risk of eye infections and vision loss associated with some over-the-counter artificial tear drops.

Most recently, on October 27, 2023, the FDA advised consumers to immediately stop using 27 major drugstore brand generic drops, including CVS Health, Leader, Rugby, Rite Aid, Target Up&Up, Velocity Pharma, and Walmart Equate products.

Due to the nature of eye drops, the manufacturing, transportation, and storage of these drops are really important for the safety and efficacy.

Until more information is available, we advise patients to avoid using over-the-counter artificial tear drops from the brands listed above or any generic brands.

At this time we recommend the use of brand name drops such as Refresh, Systane, Theratears, and iVizia which have not been impacted by the warnings.

Please contact our office with any questions or concerns about the artificial tears you are currently using. We will continue to monitor this evolving situation closely. Ensuring our patients' eye health and safety is our top priority.