

Endoscopic DCR- A brief note

Tears roll down our face when we cry. But tears are not produced only when we cry. Tears are produced continuously in lacrimal glands situated in eyes. It moistens eyes. Then it drains through lacrimal sac to nose. That's why tears do not roll down normally. It happens when tears are produced in excess as during crying or its drainage into nose is blocked. This is called epiphora.

DCR (dacryocystorhinostomy) is the surgical procedure designed to bypass the obstruction to drainage of tears to nose. When it is done through the nose using endoscope it is called endoscopic DCR.

It is usually done under general anaesthesia though it can be done under local anaesthesia too. Prior to surgery ophthalmology evaluation is done to assess site of obstruction. Nasal endoscopy is done to rule out nasal pathology causing disease or posing difficulty in access during surgery. Rarely CT Scan is also done. General evaluation and investigations to decide patient's fitness for surgery are done.

Patient is informed about pros and cons of surgery. Generally this procedure has good success rate as high as ninety percentage. No long term morbidity is associated with this procedure. Short term complications like nasal block and nasal bleeding can occur. Patient is kept in hospital for one day. Patient is advised to come after 1 week and thereafter at biweekly intervals for one month.

For further instructions please read the document titled **Instructions to patients posted for surgery**