



Team Name: Pharmacy & Therapeutics Team Lead: Regional Director - Pharmacy Approved by: VP - Medical Services	Reference Number: CLI.6010.PL.013 Program Area: Pharmacy & Therapeutics Policy Section: General
Issue Date: March 24 2016 Review Date: Revision Date:	Subject: Expiry of Opened Ophthalmic Products

POLICY SUBJECT:

Expiry of Opened Ophthalmic Products

PURPOSE:

To ensure opened ophthalmic products are discarded in a timely manner to avoid contamination.

BOARD POLICY REFERENCE:

Executive Limitation (EL-2) Treatment of Clients

POLICY & PROCEDURE:

- All eye drops should be dated when opened.
- Eye drops should be discarded thirty days from the opened date.
- This procedure does not override directions for specific products found in manufacturer's monograph.
- All eye drops bottles shall not be administered to more than one individual due to possible cross-contamination and increase risk of infection.
- This policy does not apply to single use ophthalmic products.

REFERENCES:

Livingstone, D.J. et al. (1998). Evaluation of an extended period of use for preserved eye drops in hospital practice. Br J Ophthalmol 82:473-475.

Royal Pharmaceutical Society (2001). New guidance on use of eye preparations. The Pharmaceutical Journal 267:307.