

## Dacryocystorhinostomy

- Watery eyes can be a result of blocked tear ducts. If your watery eyes are very troublesome, you may need an operation called a dacryocystorhinostomy (DCR) to make a new channel for tears to drain into.
- The operation usually requires a general anaesthetic. A small cut is made in the skin on the side of your nose, and a new channel for tears is made by removing a small piece of bone from your nose. A fine, soft plastic tube is threaded from the opening of the tear duct on the inner corner of your upper and lower eyelid, through the new channel and into your nose. This tube stays in place for a few months to stop the new passage from sealing over. It can be removed easily in the out-patient department.
- Immediately after the operation, you should avoid blowing your nose. Do not wear your glasses until the surgeon says you can. Any pain is mild.
- DCR can also be performed using a thin fibre-optic 'telescope' called an endoscope. This is passed up your nose and guides instruments or a laser, which is used to make the hole in the bone of your nose. No scar is produced on the skin of the nose and this technique is almost as successful as conventional surgery.

