Surgical Preparation For Eye Surgery

Hair should be

clipped and a generous area left free of hair and

debris.

With sterile saline, thoroughly flush the upper and lower nasolacrimal puncta and ducts. A significant amount of exudate and debris residing within the nasolacrimal duct system can reenter the conjunctival sac during surgery and should be removed before any eye surgery.

**Surgical prep detergents, such as povidone-iodine detergent scrubs, alcohol, hydrogen peroxide and chlorhexidine diacetate, should never be used near the eyes or anywhere there is a chance they could drip or run into the eyes. Chlorhexidine diacetate in particular can cause severe ocular disease and should be avoided.**

 Povidone- iodine solutions (10% solution in sterile saline or sterile water) are acceptable sanitizers for the periocular skin. Five or more centrifugal scrubs beginning at the eyelid margins and circling outwards are performed alternating with sterile saline scrubs or rinses. Finally, povidone- iodine should be applied and left in place for several minutes.

The eye can be draped with a standard four-drape technique, a fenestrated drape, or specialized,

nonfenestrated, self-adhesive eye drapes. The latter are most highly recommended for any type of intraocular surgery because their fenestration can be customized and the adjacent drape adheres beautifully to the lids and periocular facial skin and hair.