MOORFIELDS PHARMACEUTICALS has relaunched ILUBE™, 5% Acetylcysteine eye drops, a unique formulation for the treatment of dry eye syndromes associated with deficient tear secretion, impaired or abnormal mucus production.

The Acetylcysteine in ILUBE™ eye drops, breaks down thick, sticky mucus on the surface of the eye and enables tears to flow more easily across the surface of the eye.

ILUBE™ eye drops also contain Hypromellose, an artificial tear which lubricates and reduces discomfort and is recognised as a first line treatment for dry eye syndrome.

Although ILUBE™ has an established patient base, there may be patients suffering with excessive mucus on the eye, as a complication of other conditions, who may go untreated. Moorfields Pharmaceuticals has therefore initiated a programme of education for health professionals and pharmacists, with diagnostic advice and treatment information available through its specialist dry eyes website, www.dryeyesmedical.com.

ILUBE™ was previously owned by Alcon Pharmaceuticals and Moorfields acquired the marketing licence in 2009. Following improvements to the packaging, Moorfields has relaunched ILUBE™ as part of its range of specialist treatments for dry eye syndrome and related conditions.

ILUBE™ is available as a POM and is reimbursable on the NHS drug tariff.
ILUBE® 5% W/V EYE DROPS, SOLUTION (Acetylcysteine)

1 WHAT ILUBE IS AND WHAT IT IS USED FOR
ILUBE is a solution that acts as an artificial tear. It is used to provide relief for dry eyes conditions which are associated with a lack of tears or abnormal tear production. ILUBE works by reducing the stickiness of tears and lubricating dry eyes to relieve discomfort.

2 BEFORE YOU USE ILUBE
Do not use ILUBE...
If you are allergic to acetylcysteine or any of the other ingredients listed in section 6. Ask your doctor for advice.

Pregnancy and breast-feeding
If you are pregnant or might get pregnant, or if you are breast-feeding a baby, talk to your doctor before you use ILUBE.

Driving and using machines
Your vision may be blurred after using ILUBE. Do not drive or use any machines unless your vision is clear.

Using other medicines
Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking or have recently taken any other medicines, including medicines obtained without a prescription.

Important information if you wear Contact Lenses
Do not use the drops while wearing contact lenses. Wait at least 15 minutes after use before putting your lenses back in. There is a preservative in ILUBE (benzalkonium chloride) that can discolor soft contact lenses.

3 HOW TO USE ILUBE
The usual dose
The usual dose is 1 or 2 drops into the affected eye 3 or 4 times daily or as advised by your doctor. Always use ILUBE exactly as your doctor has told you. You should check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure.

How to use
• Wash your hands before you start.
• Remove the cap from the bottle.
• Draw a small amount of solution into the dropper.
• Tilt your head back.
• Pull down your lower eyelid with a finger, until there is a ‘pocket’ between the eyelid and your eye. The drop will go in here.
• Bring the dropper close to the eye. Do this in front of a mirror if it helps.
• Do not touch your eye or eyelid, surrounding areas or other surfaces with the dropper. It could infect the drops.
• Put one or two drops, as directed, in your eye.
• Close your eye for about 30 seconds.
• If you use drops in both eyes, repeat the steps for your other eye. Put the dropper in the bottle and close the cap tightly.
• If a drop misses your eye, try again. If you forget to use LUBE, do not worry, just use it as soon as you remember. Do not take a double dose to make up.
• If you use more ILUBE than you should it can be washed out of your eye with warm water.

• If the contents of the bottle are swallowed, tell your doctor or the casualty department of a hospital immediately.
• If you have any further questions on the use of ILUBE, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

4 POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS
Like all medicines, ILUBE can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.

• You may experience some or all of the following effects in your eye(s): Itching, redness, irritation.

If any of the side effects get serious or persists, or you notice any side effects not listed in this leaflet, tell your doctor or pharmacist.

5 HOW TO STORE ILUBE
• Keep out of the reach and sight of children.
• Do not store above 25°C.
• Keep the bottle tightly closed.
• Keep in the outer carton and protect from light.
• Do not use the drops after the expiry date (marked ‘Exp’) on the bottle and the carton. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.
• Stop using the bottle 4 weeks after first opening, to prevent infections.
• Medicines should not be disposed of via waste water or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to dispose of medicines no longer required. These measures will help to protect the environment.
• Do not pass this medicine on to others. It may harm them even if their symptoms are the same as yours.

6 FURTHER INFORMATION
What ILUBE contains
• The active substance is acetylcysteine 50 mg/ml.
• The other ingredients are hypromellose, disodium edetate, benzalkonium chloride, sodium hydroxide and purified water.

What ILUBE looks like and contents of the pack
ILUBE is a clear, colourless liquid supplied in a pack containing a 10 ml glass bottle and a glass dropper fitted with a screw cap.

Marketing authorisation holder:
Moorfields Eye Hospital NHS Foundation Trust Trading as Moorfields Pharmaceuticals.
34 Nile Street, London, N1 7TP, United Kingdom.

Manufacturer:
Laboratories Pharmaster,
Z.I. Krafft, F-67150 Erstein, France.
This leaflet was last approved in March 2008.

Adverse events should be reported to Moorfields Pharmaceuticals on 020 7684 9090. Information about adverse event reporting can also be found at www.yellowcard.gov.uk