difluprednate (ophthalmic)  (dye-floo-pred-nate)  
Durezol

**Classification**  
Therapeutic: ocular agents  
Pharmacologic: corticosteroids

**Pregnancy Category:** C

**Indications**  
Treatment of inflammation and pain associated with ocular surgery.

**Action**  
Decrease inflammation.  
Therapeutic Effects: Decreased pain and inflammation following ocular surgery.

**Pharmacokinetics**  
Absorption: Limited systemic absorption.  
Distribution: Unknown.  
Metabolism and Excretion: Unknown.  
Half-life: Unknown.

**TIME/ACTION PROFILE**  
ROUTE ONSET PEAK DURATION  
Ophth unknown unknown unknown

**Contraindications/Precautions**  
Contraindicated in:  
- Active viral, mycobacterial or fungal infection of eyes and surrounding structures.  
Use Cautiously in:  
- OB: Use in pregnancy only if potential benefit justifies potential risk to the fetus;  
- Lactation: Use cautiously during lactation;  
- Pedi: Safety and effectiveness in children have not been established.

**Adverse Reactions/Side Effects**  
EENT:  
- Intraocular pressure, blepharitis, cataracts, conjunctival hyperemia, corneal edema, delayed healing, eye pain, infections, iritis, photophobia.

**Interactions**

**Drug-Drug:**  
None noted.

**Route/Dosage**

**Ophth (Adults):**  
1 drop four times daily, starting 24 hr after surgery for 2 wk, then twice daily for one week, then further tapered based on response.

**NURSING IMPLICATIONS**

**Assessment**  
- Assess affect of eye pain and swelling during therapy.  
- Monitor intraocular pressure of difluprednate if used more than 10 days.

**Potential Nursing Diagnoses**  
Acute pain (Indications)

**Implementation**  
- Ophth: Instill 1 drop into conjunctival sac of affected eye 4 times/day beginning 24 hr after surgery and continuing throughout first 2 wk of postoperative period, followed by twice daily for a wk, then dose is tapered on response.

**Patient/Family Teaching**  
- Instruct patient in correct technique and frequency for instillation of eye drops.  
- Instruct patient to avoid wearing contact lenses during therapy.  
- Advise female patients to notify health care professional if pregnancy is planned or suspected or if breast feeding.  
- Advise patient to notify health care professional if redness, itching or inflammation develops or becomes aggravated.

**Evaluation/Desired Outcomes**  
- Decrease in eye pain and inflammation following ocular surgery.

**Why was this drug prescribed for your patient?**