What is it?
The punctum is a small drainage hole at the inner ends of the upper and lower lids. 80% of your tears drain down through the lower punctum and 20% through the upper punctum. You have a tight punctum which is preventing the tears from entering the lacrimal drainage system and causing your symptoms of watering. Having syringed the tear duct your surgeon is aware that there is a potential passageway through which the tears drain. The snip procedure opens up the punctum and allows the tears to drain into the top part of the drainage system.

Will the procedure work?
Most likely yes, but not always. This is because the “tear pump” needs to be working even if the drainage hole has been enlarged. Additionally there can be blockages further downstream resulting in failure. Sometimes the position of the lid, which may turn out, affects how the tears drain. Ask your surgeon and he will give you some indication of how helpful the procedure will be.

What is involved?
A small local anaesthetic is all that is required. The surgeon then opens up the punctum with a series of small cuts. It will all be over in a matter of minutes.

What are the complications?
Swelling
Bruising
Mild bloody discharge for a day or two
Procedure not working as discussed above

If you have any questions about the procedure, however trivial they may seem to you, do not hesitate to ask.
I agree that this constitutes full disclosure, and that it supersedes any previous verbal or written disclosures. I certify that I have read, and fully understand the above paragraphs, and that I have had a sufficient opportunity for discussion, and to ask questions. I consent to this procedure. Where there may be repeats of the same treatment, this consent applies until I inform the Doctor otherwise.

Patient Signature: _______________________________  Date: ________________

Patient Name: (Print) _______________________________________________

Doctor Signature: _______________________________  Date: ________________

Doctor Name: (Print) _______________________________________________