

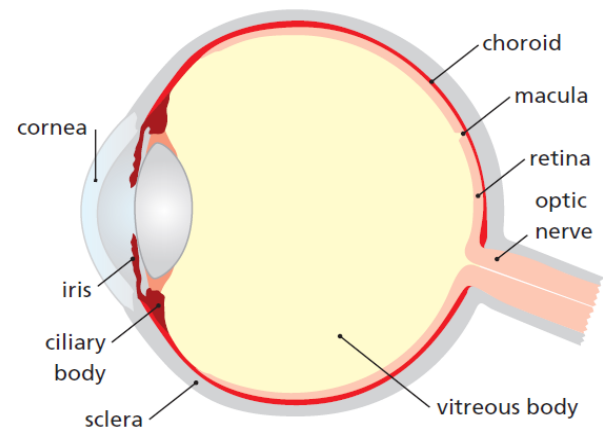


Patient information – external disease and corneal services

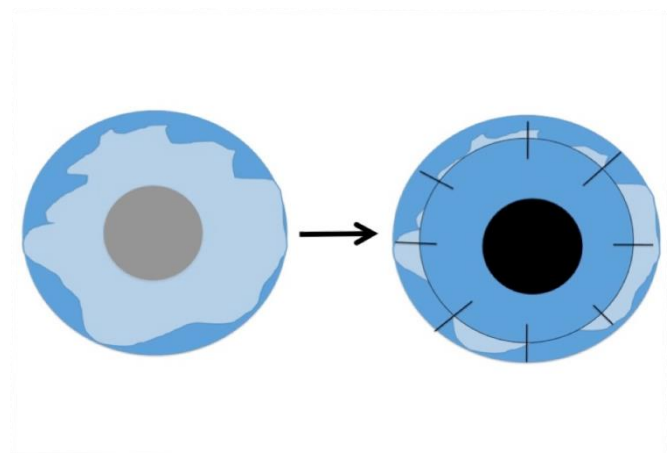
Corneal transplantation: penetrating keratoplasty (PK)

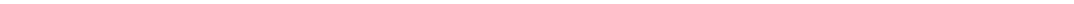
Why would I need a corneal transplant?

The cornea is a window of transparent tissue at the front of the eyeball. It allows light to pass into the eye and provides focus so that images can be seen. Various diseases or injury can make the cornea either cloudy or out of shape. This prevents the normal passage of light and affects vision.



A cloudy cornea can be replaced by a healthy one from a donor to restore vision.
(see image below)







is not performed until at least one year after the procedure.

What if my transplant fails?

A failed transplant can be replaced in a procedure known as a regrant. However, the risk of further rejection and failure increases each time for subsequent re-grafts.

The percentages of full-thickness corneal grafts that are still functioning well under various conditions five years after the operation are:

Condition	%
Keratoconus	95
Fuchs' dystrophy	80-90
Stromal scar	80-90
Stromal dystrophies	80-90
Bullous keratopathy	50-80
Bacterial infections	50-80
Herpetic keratitis	50-80
Fungal infection	0-50
Third or higher number regrant	0-50
Four quadrants of blood vessels	0-50
Inflammation at time of surgery	0-50
Severe ocular surface disease	0-50
Grafts greater than 10mm	0-50

Corneal transplant rejection

Rejection needs urgent treatment as this can lead to failure of the transplant and loss of vision.

Symptoms of rejection are:

- Red eye
- Sensitivity to light
- Visual loss
- Pain

If you experience any of these symptoms you should come immediately to our 24-hour emergency department. If in doubt, call 020 7253 3411 and ask to speak with the doctor on duty in the emergency department.

Consenting for information sharing

To comply with the law and to ensure high quality transplant material, we are required to share your information with the NHS Blood and Transplant Special Health Authority (NHSBT), who supply donor corneas. However, we require your consent to share this information. If you do not give consent for your information to be shared with or held by the NHSBT, this may affect availability of donor tissue for the transplant or create problems with contacting you should any issues be identified later on with the tissue you received. For further details, please read the leaflet "NHS Blood and Transplant: Giving consent for use of your information," which can be found here:

https://www.organdonation.nhs.uk/newsroom/publications/living_donor_consent.pdf

Author: Tom Flynn, consultant ophthalmologist
Revision number: 3
Approval date: February 2018
Review date: February 2020



**Moorfields Eye Hospital NHS
Foundation Trust**
City Road, London EC1V 2PD
Phone: 020 7253 3411
www.moorfields.nhs.uk

Moorfields Direct telephone helpline

Phone: 020 7566 2345
Monday-Friday, 8.30am-9pm
Saturday, 9am-5pm
Information and advice on eye
conditions and treatments from
experienced ophthalmic-trained nurses.

Patient advice and liaison service (PALS)

Phone: 020 7566 2324/ 020 7566 2325
Email: moorfields.pals@nhs.net
Moorfields' PALS team provides
confidential advice and support to help
you with any concerns you may have
about the care we provide, guiding you
through the different services available
at Moorfields. The PALS team can also
advise you on how to make a complaint.

Your right to treatment within 18 weeks

Under the NHS constitution, all patients
have the right to begin consultant-led
treatment within 18 weeks of being
referred by their GP. Moorfields is
committed to fulfilling this right, but if
you feel that we have failed to do so,
please contact our patient advice and
liaison service (PALS) who will be able
to advise you further (see above). For
more information about your rights
under the NHS constitution, visit
www.nhs.uk/choiceinthenhs



