



**Moorfields
Eye Hospital**
NHS Foundation Trust



Moorfields Magazine

A magazine for patients, staff,
members, carers and visitors

Latest on our new centre

Nicki regains
her sight

Inside our
pharmacy

Digital
leadership

Summer 2026
moorfields.nhs.uk



C O N T E N T S



**Moorfields and
UCL Centre for
Eye Health**

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**Moorfields
Magazine**



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Welcome from Peter Ridley, chief executive



Welcome to our summer issue, featuring clinical breakthroughs, staff achievements and important updates on the new Moorfields and UCL Centre for Eye Health.

The move to our new centre is coming closer, and we have included the questions we frequently get asked by patients and staff about the centre. We hope you will feel the same sense of excitement we do as we start getting ready to move, and please do start looking out for lots of information about the move and what it will mean for you across our various communication channels.

We outline the improvements Moorfields at Bedford patients should see as a result of our investment in the site and services, including a diagnostic hub, as well as celebrating new accreditation for Moorfields at Stratford.

There are features on our life-saving oncology service, and we take you behind the pharmacy window to showcase some of the varied roles the team performs.

Our world-first breakthrough in hypotony is explained, with ingenuity and determination at the heart of a new treatment for a condition that had previously always led to sight loss.

And it is a real privilege to share with you news of colleagues' successes. The stellar recognition in The Ophthalmologist's Power List – far greater than any other hospital in the world – reflects the massive contribution of the teams working with them. And we also celebrate the winner of a national cleaning award, recipients of research leadership awards and everyone else who has stretched to achieve their goals at Moorfields.

Peter Ridley,
chief executive



Moorfields a case study for new NHS Online service

“

Patients are being seen more quickly and the pressure on NHS services is being reduced.

”

Moorfields digital innovation was featured in the national announcement of the NHS Online service.

This service is being set up to transform how healthcare is delivered. It allows patients to be assessed quickly through the NHS App, speak to doctors via video consultation and be monitored in the comfort of their home, saving unnecessary trips to hospital.

The initial nine conditions being treated through NHS Online include cataracts, glaucoma and macular degeneration.

Our Sparc service platform has been used as an exemplar. This is a single point of access for electronic referrals of patients from optometrists and GPs. It improves the quality of referrals, reducing the number of people unnecessarily referred to

hospital, saving patients time.

NHS England included a quote from Pete Thomas, director of digital development and consultant ophthalmologist as an advisor:

“With our single point of access service, we’ve been defining how a virtual hospital can support better eye care.

“We’ve used technology to improve the capability and efficiency of the system, which allows clinicians in the community and hospital services to work more closely together to streamline care.

“The impact is clear - patients are being seen more quickly in more appropriate settings, and the pressure on NHS services is being reduced.”



Prestigious accreditation for Stratford operating theatres



Moorfields at Stratford has been awarded [GIRFT](#) (Getting it right first time) surgical hub accreditation for efficiency, safety and quality.

This award is made to sites which have two or more theatres and reach these exacting standards, and has now been achieved by every Moorfields site that meets these criteria. The Stratford team had to submit evidence ahead of the GIRFT team's visit, including standards, performance data and patient feedback and ratings. As part of their assessment, the GIRFT team spoke to patients and staff, including an artist, who credited the Stratford team with

'giving me my life back'. One of the NHS England assessors described Moorfields at Stratford as 'ophthalmic nirvana'. [Moorfields at Stratford](#) offers surgery (and outpatient) appointments for cataracts, glaucoma, medical retina, adnexal and general

ophthalmology including a laser suite). For most specialties, it has historically low waiting times. Only five minutes from the busy Stratford station, it serves east and north east London, as well as Essex.



Moorfields fills half the top 10 in The Ophthalmologist's global Power List

In the most prestigious award for ophthalmologists, Moorfields has been honoured with five of the top ten in this year's Power List, and eleven in the top 50.

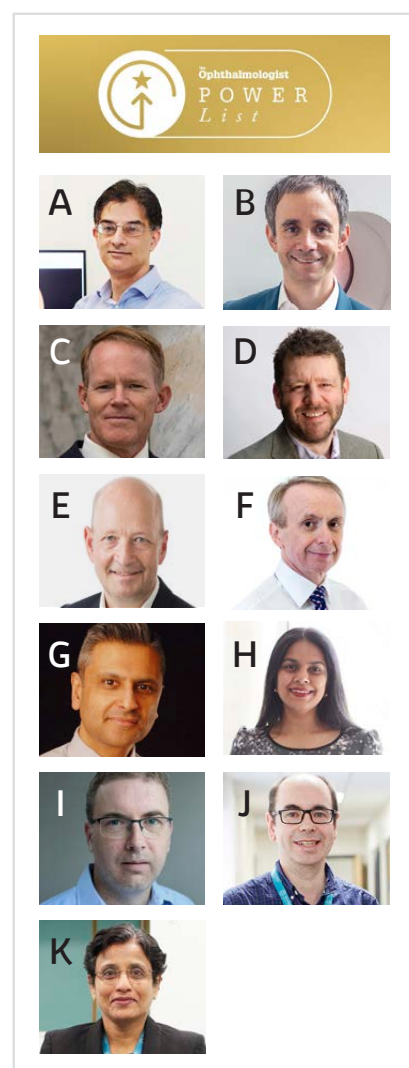
The theme for this year's list was *Drivers of Change*, with a focus on achievements in the past 12 months, featuring those making the biggest difference in the field today.

The recognition of these individuals reflects the huge amount of work put in by the teams of contributing to our broad research portfolio.

Unusually, they nominated one individual as the most influential ophthalmologist - Gus Gazzard – who said: "It's tremendous to be among so many colleagues from Moorfields being recognised for contributions to ophthalmology. It shows the strength of our UCL-NHS collaborations".



- A. Adnan Tufail**, consultant ophthalmologist; professor of ophthalmology, UCL IoO. **(Top 10)**
- B. Anthony Khawaja**, honorary consultant ophthalmic surgeon, and professor of ophthalmology, Moorfields and UCL IoO. **(Top 10)**
- C. David Verity**, consultant orbital and oculoplastic surgeon; additional roles at the Hospital of St John of Jerusalem and the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. **(Top 10, new to Power List)**
- D. Gus Gazzard**, director of surgery and consultant ophthalmic surgeon; Professor of ophthalmology, UCL IoO (Institute of Ophthalmology). **(No 1 overall)**



- E. James Bainbridge**, consultant ophthalmologist; chair of retinal studies, UCL IoO.
- F. Keith Barton**, consultant ophthalmic surgeon; professor of ophthalmology at UCL IoO.

Investment in Moorfields at Bedford

G. Mandeep Sagoo, consultant ophthalmic surgeon and director of the ocular oncology service; professor of ophthalmology and ocular oncology, UCL IoO; consultant ophthalmic surgeon, Royal London Hospital.

H. Mariya Moosajee, consultant ophthalmologist and head of genetics service; professor of molecular ophthalmology at UCL IoO and Francis Crick Institute.

I. Pearse Keane, consultant ophthalmologist; professor of artificial medical intelligence (AI) at UCL IoO; director of the INSIGHT health data research hub. **(Top 10)**

J. Peter Thomas, consultant ophthalmologist and director of digital development.

K. Sobha Sivaprasad, consultant ophthalmologist; director of the NIHR Moorfields clinical research facility (CRF); and professor at UCL IoO.

Moorfields has changed how it works with Bedford Hospital to deliver eye care. We have invested behind the scenes over the last couple of years to make your experience of using our services even better.



This means:

- ▶ Quicker routine diagnostic tests (around 45 minutes), with less waiting time.
- ▶ A new phone system, without a switchboard – you should find it easier to get through to us.
- ▶ Prescriptions despatched direct to you from Moorfields (or given to you in Bedford if you need them immediately).
- ▶ Setting up many routine appointments six weeks ahead, not six months – this means we can see more patients overall.
- ▶ Outpatient appointment letters sent more quickly by text; you can change or cancel appointments directly through this portal, and we will remind you about appointments too. We can still post your letters if you prefer.
- ▶ Eye services at Bedford will fall under Moorfields, rather than Bedfordshire Hospitals, in the NHS app.



Find out more





Data sharing vital for equity

A recent report has shown that engaging with faith groups to encourage responsible health data sharing could play a critical role in improving eye health outcomes for underserved communities.

Global majority populations (GMPs) face disproportionately high rates of visual impairment and sight-threatening conditions and are also underrepresented in research datasets.

As 71% of Londoners identify as religious, a UCL team conducted focus groups and interviews with Christian, Jewish and Muslim people to explore their knowledge, concerns and expectations regarding data sharing and eye care.

Barriers include privacy concerns, institutional trust and not seeing its potential benefits for their community. One

participant commented, on overcoming these, “If you’ve got someone you trust that looks like you and sounds like you, whatever faith you are, there’s trust there.”

Moorfields lead nurse for research and UCL Institute of Ophthalmology professor of ophthalmic health and care, Prof Roxanne Crosby-Nwaobi, who co-supervised the research, said: “Our study shows that responsible data sharing—rooted in trust, transparency, cultural awareness and cultural humility—has the potential to reduce eye health inequalities and

improving outcomes for GMPs.”

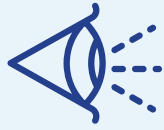
The report, [“Good Eye Health Through Responsible Data Sharing”](#) has been published by The Reach Alliance.



Prof Roxanne Crosby-Nwaobi



Over one million estimated to have glaucoma



Over one million people are estimated to currently have glaucoma in the UK, almost 50% higher than the previous estimates of 700,000, according to a Moorfields study.

Glaucoma is a common condition in which the optic nerve, which connects the eye to the brain, becomes damaged. As it often has no symptoms until significant vision has been permanently lost, the team are calling for patients to get their eyes checked more frequently.

Lead author Paul Foster, researcher at UCL Institute of Ophthalmology, explained: "Late diagnosis comes with a higher risk of sight loss and higher costs of care; over 40% of glaucoma patients in the UK experience vision loss that could have been prevented

with earlier diagnosis and treatment such as eye drops and surgery."



Prof Paul Foster

“
I would urge people reading my story to get their eyes tested regularly

”



Jill's story

Jill worked for over 30 years in the NHS, working her way up from nurse to chief executive. In retirement she is still busy volunteering, travelling and walking, including the pilgrimage trails.

Describing her glaucoma, she said: "I had experienced floaters in my eyes for years, but eight or nine years ago it dawned on me that they were worse in my right eye and there were patches I couldn't see.

"My GP sent me to my local hospital where I was diagnosed with glaucoma and given some drops. As I was having difficulty getting follow-up appointments, I contacted Moorfields Private initially, later transferring to Moorfields Eye Hospital where, over the years I tried different drops and laser surgery.

"Around a year ago, my vision was deteriorating, I was finding it difficult to adjust from light to darkness, so I reluctantly gave up driving. My consultant advised me to have a trabeculectomy, to create a new drainage pathway for fluid in the eye, to help prevent further sight loss.

All about eye cancer

Receiving a diagnosis of cancer is the only thing more feared than sight loss – so how do we treat this rare condition? Ocular oncologist Mr Amit Arora explains:

“Intraocular eye cancer is very rare in real terms – we treat over 300 new cases a year, and are one of the oldest centres of excellence in the world. Symptoms include strange persistent flashing lights and changes in your sight or field of vision. Around a third of diagnoses are asymptomatic, though, and come through routine eye tests. Most patients are over 50, but children can be affected too.”

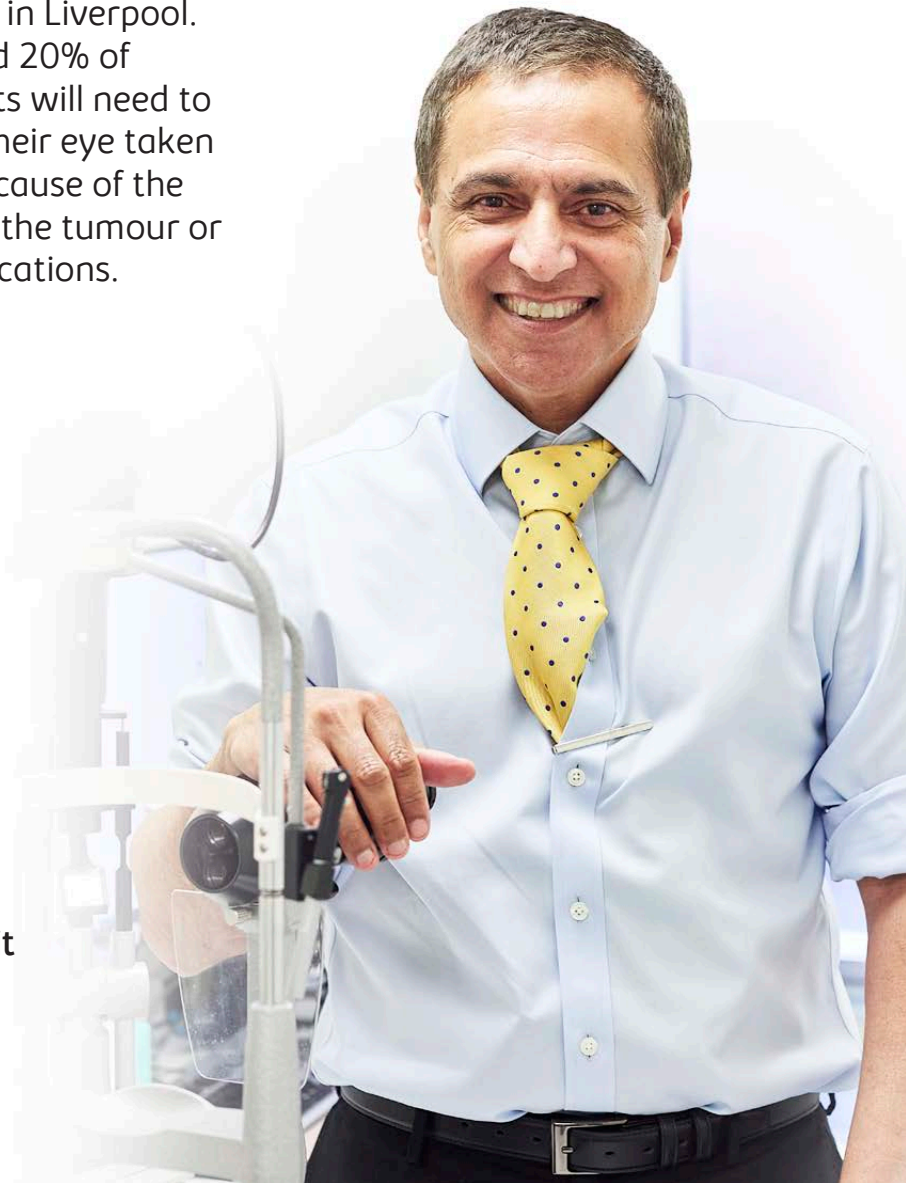
Mr Arora, who is also a staff governor at Moorfields Eye Hospital, added:

“A multi-disciplinary team meets weekly to review all new cases. The earlier the tumour is discovered, and the smaller the tumour, the better the outcome is. The risk is if it spreads, most commonly to the liver. We use targeted

radiotherapy to destroy the tumour, though this can also damage vision. We can treat with plaque radiotherapy, performed surgically, or by proton beam radiotherapy, via the Clatterbridge Cancer Centre in Liverpool. Around 20% of patients will need to have their eye taken out because of the size of the tumour or complications.

“Cancer survival is measured over years, meaning patients need regular follow-up and screening. These are increasingly by video, to save patients long trips to London”.

Mr Amit Arora



EYE CANCER

Current cancer research underway includes...

- ▶ Initial assessment of potential cancers using photos of the eye and AI.
- ▶ A drug injected into the bloodstream to try and stop the spread of a cancer in higher risk patients.
- ▶ A drug injected into the eye to induce an immune response, followed by laser treatment, to attack small tumours.



Oncology team

Louise's story

Louise's cancer came to light following a referral to Moorfields from her optician:

"I had a detaching retina, or 'something else'. I was advised to go to A&E that day, with a family member, which was quite daunting - and the diagnosis left me shocked and petrified, like a rabbit in the headlights. I was referred to oncology and, within two weeks, the eye had been removed, due to a medium to large tumour. This was done under Moorfields Private, as I had health insurance, meaning an overnight stay, even though I had only needed sedation. The team inspired confidence in me, and demonstrated great empathy.

"I left hospital with a patch, and soon

had a temporary prosthetic eye, though this was not a perfect fit. I remember the squelching of the putty to measure my cavity for my new eye and, in a couple of months, I had what I called Cyrilla – perfectly matched in cyrillian blue.

"I am at risk of metastasis into the liver, and will be scanned every six months for life, as the cancer lives on in the blood. I have recently been discharged by the liver surgery team at Royal Free Hospital, though, where I was referred for ablation for a liver lesion, which has curiously now disappeared.

“

I lost my eye, but the annual eye test at my optician's and the teams treating me saved my life.

”



Low-cost gel gives patients their sight back



A Moorfields team, led by consultant ophthalmologist Harry Petrushkin, has established a world-first hypotony (low eye pressure) service, seeing remarkable results in a recently published paper.

The condition typically affects people with other eye conditions that damage the part of the eye responsible for producing the fluid that maintains normal eye pressure.

Gradually injecting HPMC (hydroxypropyl methylcellulose), a transparent gel commonly used post-operatively, has reversed this previously untreatable condition that otherwise leads to sight loss over several years. It does this by restoring the eye's normal shape.

Remarkably, in addition to restoring the eye's anatomy, seven of the eight patients who received the treatment experienced improvements in vision, eye pressure and length restoration after a twelve-month course of treatment.

Harry said:

“**We are excited that this simple treatment has proved so effective for patients with this rare condition. This is the start of a process of understanding more about the balance of fluid inside the eye, leading to improved care for our patients.**”



Harry Petrushkin

HYPOTONY

Nicki's story



“

As the pressure improved, my vision started to come back. It was incredible!

”

Nicki

Nicki's sight issues began when she was diagnosed with uveitis. For several years, she lived symptom-free, until a cataract developed in her right eye. Following routine surgery, she lost vision in it.

At this stage, she was referred to Moorfields. Multiple treatments were attempted, including the use of steroids, trying to stop sight loss in her left eye. While some offered temporary relief, others led to sudden drops in pressure or even vision loss. Despite these treatments, the left eye lost sight following cataract surgery, due to low pressure.

Losing her sight had been frightening, but it pushed her to find out about treatment options and

cutting-edge research, saying:

“After I lost vision, I thought, ‘there has to be something else we can try’.

“We went ahead with the gel and, as the pressure improved, my vision started to come back. It was incredible! This felt extraordinary, especially as I remember Mr Petrushkin telling me that, before this treatment, people were going blind.

“It's incredible to know that people are regaining vision. I want to keep my eyesight as long as I can, and this gives me that hope.

“I highly recommend this treatment. Giving people their sight back is something special.”

The innovation grant awarded to Harry Petrushkin to help develop a minimally invasive and low-cost treatment strategy for hypotony has directly led to patients like Nicki having their sight restored. By supporting innovative projects at Moorfields and the UCL Institute of Ophthalmology, the charity makes a life-changing difference to patients across the UK and around the world. Their early stage funding enabled a new idea to take shape and progress into research and translational medicine.



 Moorfields
Eye Charity

Ex-Friends volunteer now saving people's sight

Dr Karla Orsine Murta Dias, uveitis fellow, is one of the hypotony team. She joined us in 2020, but her Moorfields journey actually started eight years ago:

“When I first moved to the UK in 2018, I was an ophthalmologist in Brazil, but I needed validation to practice in the UK.

“I was a volunteer at City Road for a year from August 2018. It was an amazing experience for me. I found out more about British people and the hospital’s culture, how to work as a team, and I improved my English. I spent time with patients, helping them check in, guiding them and listening

to their stories, fears and wishes.

“I also learned how I should speak to them and how to explain conditions in simple words, shaping my care.

“My first role was in Southampton, but I kept in touch, returned to Moorfields, and have been here ever since – for six years now!

“Volunteering was an awesome experience, which I will carry with me forever”.



Dr Karla Orsine Murta Dias

“**Volunteering was an awesome experience, which I will carry with me forever.**

”



Scan the QR code for more information about volunteering with Friends of Moorfields



AI-enabled eye care saves sight in remote Bangladesh

At a mobile eye camp set up in a cyclone shelter, Kalam Chowkider leans into a camera that takes a high-resolution image from inside his eye - until now, no one thought this possible on his island. Immediately, an AI system scans for disease. By the time he reaches his hut, a specialist in Stuttgart diagnoses diabetic retinopathy.

He lives on one of the many fragile river islands in a remote coastal district of Bangladesh, with no electricity, health centre or paved roads.

Here, sight-threatening conditions go undetected until it is too late. The nearest clinic is four hours away, by boat costing a month's food.

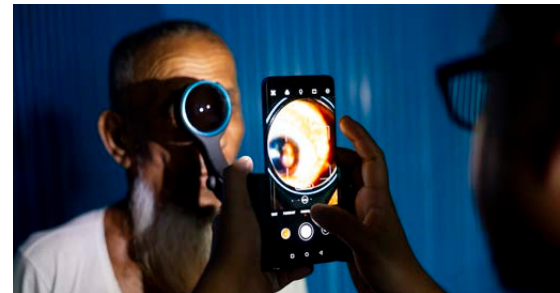
The ACA2 project launched in 2025 to serve these communities. It took just two years of collaboration between Stanford University, partners and a tech provider to develop this AI-driven capability.

This was only possible through access to the RETFound open-source AI foundation model,

developed by Moorfields and UCL. The cost of building an AI model and a 1.6m image database of scans would have been prohibitive. Moorfields also gave support in developing and validating a Bangladesh-specific diabetic retinopathy detection system.

Hasib Rahman, co-founder of ACA2, said: "RETFound allowed us to move from idea to real-world clinical pilot in months, not years. With ongoing support from Dr. Paul Nderitu and team, we were able to deploy a human - AI care model at the last mile."

In just over a year, ACA2 has served a remarkable 38,000 people, over 80% of whom had



never received eye care. 2,200 sight-threatening conditions were detected early, 4,700 cataracts identified and 16,000 pairs of reading glasses delivered – restoring vision (and independence) at scale.

The ACA2 eye care model, with human oversight, has since received governmental clearance for pilot deployment in wider communities.

Paul and Hasib





Moorfields and UCL Centre for Eye Health

Our new, world-class centre for eye care, research, and education, opening next year, has been officially named.

The building is now called the Moorfields and UCL Centre for Eye Health, reinforcing the

partnership between Moorfields Eye Hospital, the UCL Institute of Ophthalmology, and Moorfields Eye Charity.

Harnessing the expertise of clinicians and researchers under one roof, the centre will

deliver the highest quality eye care, research and education. With state-of-the-art facilities, patients will have access to more efficient treatments, as well as being able to take part in research more easily.



All about our new centre

Where is Moorfields and UCL Centre for Eye Health?

The centre is located at 4 St Pancras Way NW1 OPE.

When will it open?

The centre is due to open to patients in summer 2027. We will communicate with patients and staff before the move, to provide useful information about both the layout and facilities of the centre, including when patients will need to attend their appointments at the new site.

We will also provide information to help guide patients to the new location, including how to find their clinic once they have arrived in the building. Our Friends of Moorfields volunteers will be on hand to support patients with the move.

Staff teams will be provided with plans for their areas and will receive full orientation before the centre opens to patients.

What will happen to the City Road site?

In December 2021, Derwent London plc was selected as the preferred purchasers of the site. In May 2022, Derwent announced the exchange of conditional contracts for the sale. As the developer, Derwent is responsible for plans for the site and has engaged in a public consultation to gather views. Moorfields Eye Hospital and the UCL Institute

of Ophthalmology will continue to work closely with Islington Council as plans for the site progresses.

Which services will move?

Services provided at Moorfields Eye Hospital City Road, the Richard Desmond Children's Eye Centre, Cayton Street clinics and Moorfields Private on Bath Street will move to the new centre. No patient care services will remain at City Road.



Sneak preview inside our new centre, with clinicians and researchers sharing how the centre's design will support patients and staff.



MOORFIELDS AND UCL CENTRE FOR EYE HEALTH

What about Moorfields' other sites?

Moorfields' network of services across London and further afield will continue to deliver and develop services for patients at those sites.

What facilities will be available for patients?

There will be cafes and areas in which to relax within the centre. St Pancras Gardens, located a few minutes from the new centre, offers a green space, and there are plenty of shops and restaurants nearby at Coal's Drop Yard and King's Cross and St Pancras stations.

Will there be a green line?

There will be a green line to the centre to help people navigate their way along the 'last half mile' from King's Cross and St Pancras stations. We have also agreed improvements to kerb heights and markings, extensions of crossing times at controlled lights and implementation of raised zebra crossings. Our external wayfinding strategy has been developed in partnership with inclusive design

experts, transport authorities, local authorities, patients and sight loss organisations.

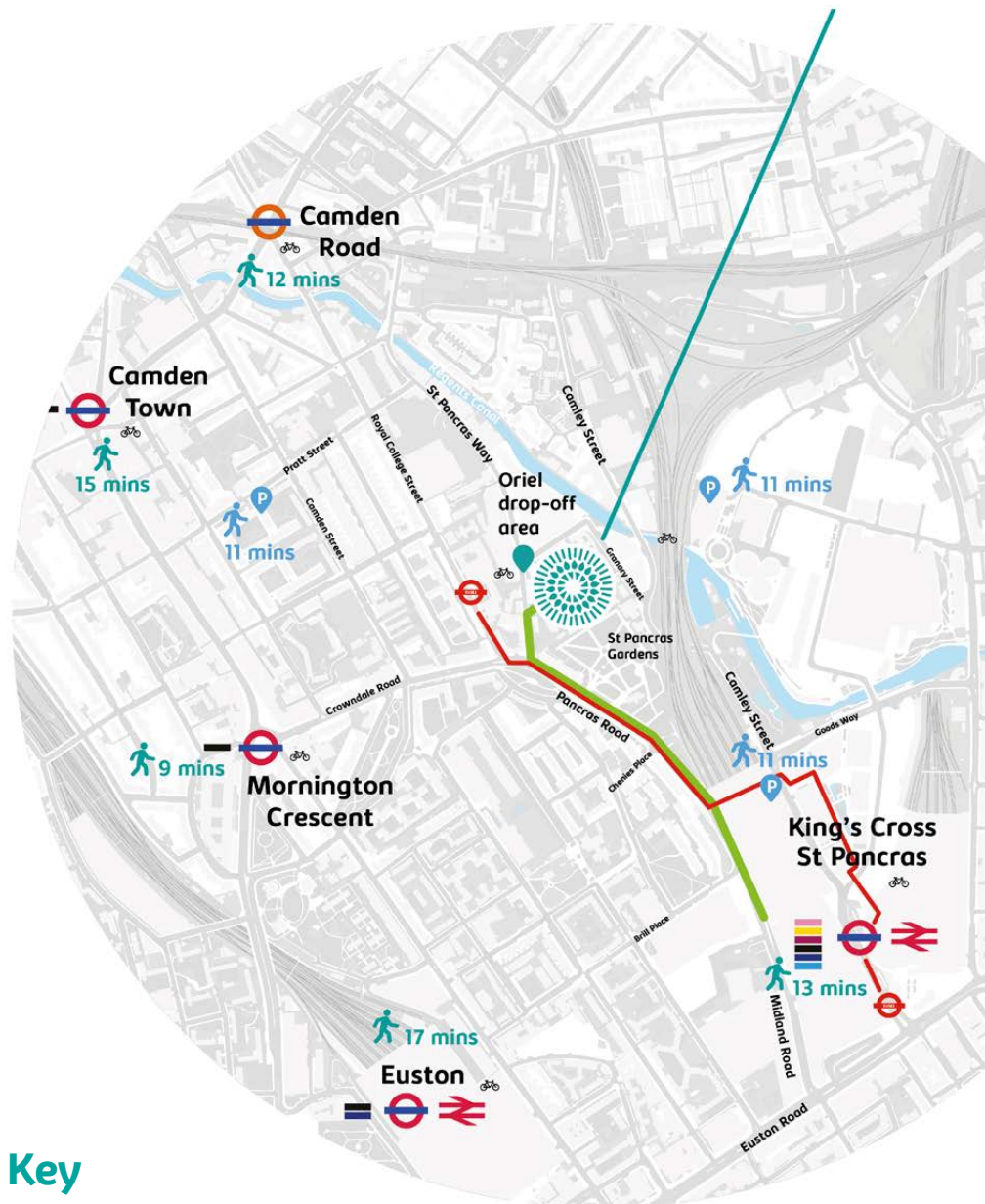
Will there be parking?

In line with the London Borough of Camden's policy on parking and the highly accessible location

of the site, the new centre will not have car parking. There will be a patient drop-off area.

New centre location

Kings Cross St Pancras



Key



Bike racks



Walking distance to centre

Green line to centre

Bus route 46 and 214



Car parks



Tube lines

“

I'm really looking forward to the new centre feeling like a fresh clean start, away from the old rabbit warren built up over so many years.

”

Adrian Reed



Engaging patients in the new centre

To ensure our centre is accessible to all, we have been engaging patients to seek input into how we develop our physical and digital wayfinding signs and services.

Adrian Reed, patient and volunteer, explains how he has been involved in providing his insight to our Oriel project.

“I became a patient at Moorfields about 30 years ago after myopic detachments in both eyes. I was excited to learn about the Oriel project as it seemed a fantastic opportunity to bring expertise together on one site.

“I've been involved in 'wayfinding' - trying to make it as easy as possible for current and new patients to navigate an entirely new building. If you've been a patient, you have a very different perspective on how things may seem to someone with good sight. Apart from the signage, there are good non-visual clues that can help, as well as our volunteers. I'm really

looking forward to the new centre feeling like a fresh clean start, away from the old rabbit warren built up over so many years.”



Scan the QR code to read more about the new centre, including wayfinding and our frequently asked questions.



Spotlight on... Pharmacy



When you think of our pharmacy, you may picture a prescription, a window and a waiting room.



Moorfields' pharmacy is much more than this, with specialisms in research, digital transformation and infection management, as well as those striving for efficient and cost-effective care.





Tenesa Sargent

Clinical trials

Tenesa is our lead clinical trials pharmacist, heading up a team of six specialists.

“

I have worked in clinical trials for over 20 years, and have been at Moorfields for two and a half years. It's inspiring to be part of an organisation that is constantly advancing treatments for patients with sight-threatening conditions”.

I have always been interested in how new medicines move from research into real patient care. Clinical trials are a critical step in that journey, and pharmacy support ensures investigational medicines are handled safely and correctly.

I have always been interested in how new medicines move from research into real patient care.

What I particularly enjoy is the combination of science, patient safety and collaboration. We transform complex trial protocols into safe and practical systems for the hospital, including storing, preparing, dispensing and recording, including for gene therapies.

Clinical Trials Pharmacy helps bridge the gap between research and routine care, and it's incredibly rewarding to see therapies in clinical trials become standard treatments for patients.

”



Rory Coughlin

Procurement and distribution

Lead pharmacy technician Rory Coughlin has worked in the NHS since graduating, joining us 13 years ago from Bristol Royal Infirmary. He is a past winner of our Moorfields Stars 'Unsung Hero' award, attributing this to his colleagues' hard work and dedication.

“

I lead the busy team that orders medicines and makes sure they are distributed across our 20 sites. We use our contracts to ensure the trust gets good value, and make sure treatments are available to patients where and when they need them – which frequently means chasing suppliers.

It's rewarding to know our work contributes to a positive patient experience.

As a specialist hospital, we get tricky requests that require a lot of planning, but it is really satisfying when we can supply these – it's rewarding to know our work contributes to a positive patient experience.

”



Marium Javed

Biosimilars

Marium, lead pharmacist for high cost therapies and homecare services since 2024, has been a pharmacist for 13 years, having worked in surgery and intensive care in NHS trusts.

“

Biosimilars are equivalent to branded medicines, and are developed once the patent has expired. They undergo very strict testing and regulatory review to ensure they have the same safety, quality and effectiveness as the original medicine. I took on this new role at Moorfields as a new biosimilar version of our main treatment for wet age-related macular degeneration (AMD) has the potential save the trust over £6.5m a year, a significant contribution to the efficiency savings we are required to make each year.

This biosimilar...has the potential to save the trust over £6.5m a year

We talk to patients to make sure they are familiar with the change, answer their questions (often about the evidence and testing of the biosimilar) and reassure them – especially if it’s for their only sighted eye. Most consent to change, as we allow them to switch back in future if they wish to.

”



Stephanie Ghartey

Electronic patient record (EPR)

Stephanie started as a pharmacist for 13 years, and moved to Moorfields as a digital and medicines ophthalmology pharmacist three years ago.

“

I have always been interested in digital medicines – ensuring consistent format and coding for treatments across systems, sharing information rather than rekeying it.

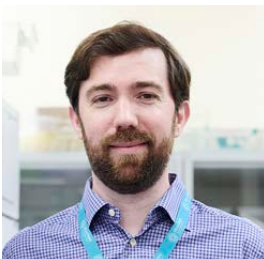
I have a passion for equity, and do what I can to help patients who struggle with digitised services.

I was excited by the opportunity at Moorfields, and it was natural to join the EPR team. I am a core team member, leading three modules (including how the changes will affect pharmacy) and chairing the communications and engagement group. My background makes me ideally placed to translate technical information into language that staff (and patients) can understand.

My work helps to streamline our processes and improves information sharing – the new EPR will reduce the number of times people have to give us details of their medications, and will make this information, including previous prescriptions, easier for clinicians to see.

I also have a passion for equity, and help patients who struggle with digitised services by ensuring they still have access to information without having to go online. You can help us by checking your information is correct on our records, to make sure inequalities are not carried across onto the new system.

”



Ed Hindle

Ocular inflammation therapeutics service (OITS)

Ed joined Moorfields 16 years ago as a trainee, and has been the lead OITS pharmacist for eight years.

“

From the outset, I was struck by the expertise within the hospital and the strong collaborative culture. If I encountered an unfamiliar topic, there was invariably someone nearby with expert knowledge. I worked as a specialist formulary pharmacist, supporting clinicians in accessing new medicines and later, as lead antimicrobial pharmacist.

OITS ensures the safe and effective use of systemic immunosuppressive medicines for patients with sight threatening inflammatory eye diseases.



We make sure blood tests, X rays and neuroimaging are completed and reviewed (if needed) before treatment begins. We discuss safe use, expected benefits and potential risks of what can be a long-term therapy. We also coordinate ongoing blood tests to detect early signs of adverse effects.

From the outset, I was struck by the expertise within the hospital and the strong collaborative culture.

Before this pharmacy-led service was established, complex monitoring was not consistent across services. And, since 2017, the number of patients prescribed immunosuppressants has doubled.

The scale of practice at Moorfields is unique, routinely running two uveitis clinics each day, plus weekly specialist services for external eye disease, orbital inflammation and neuro ophthalmology. This is where most of our referrals come from.

OITS has supported over 2,500 patients, the largest service in the UK. The complexity and volume of cases require a dedicated, highly specialised pharmacy team.

”

Boosting skills and confidence ahead of EPR

In a partnership with Southbank Colleges, we have developed a digital skills course for staff as part of our preparations for our new electronic patient record (EPR).



Some people had little digital confidence, or even had a fear of new technology, but are now informal “digital champions” in their teams, able to help colleagues if they struggle. One participant said it was “life changing”, and everyone who started the course successfully completed it.

The same team also created a functional skills course, for people who require formal Level 2 qualifications in English or Maths, or have international certificates not recognised in the UK. Rongling Shu, an advanced practitioner in the uveitis service, said this “was the key that unlocked my opportunity to



undertake a UCL master’s degree apprenticeship that required Maths qualifications. Successfully completing my studies has paved the way for me to work at an advanced level within a leading eye hospital”.

“
This was the key that unlocked my opportunity to undertake a UCL master’s degree apprenticeship that required Maths qualifications.
”

Day in the life Akintunde Segun, development engineer

“I am one of a team of six engineers, managing and developing in-house applications.

“I worked on the configuration for our integration engine, which enables software systems to talk to each other, even though they may not be compatible. This is what our new Electronic Patient Record will use to communicate with all the other clinical apps we use.

“A typical day will involve project meetings, writing documentation and amending applications, including responding to requests and suggestions for improvements from colleagues.

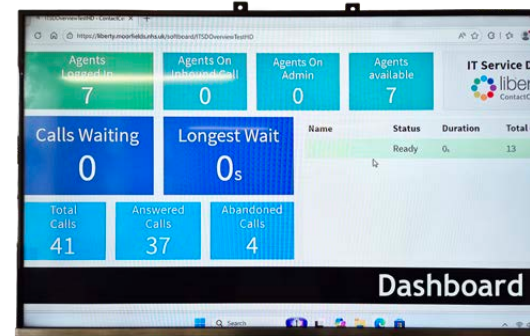
“Things do occasionally go wrong, maybe a bug or something unexpected. If the screen (top right) shows the help line is overloaded, everyone available across the

department steps in to help, to minimise staff’s waiting times – all hands to the pump!

“Our team responds quickly, and less urgent tasks are paused. We may have to take down systems that could be causing the issue. We can stay until 7pm or 8pm, trying to identify the cause, and restoring applications once they are ruled out as a cause. Our fixes and application updates are then usually applied after 5pm or over the weekend. Even one patient affected by an issue is one too many.

“**One patient affected by an issue is one too many.**”

Akintunde Segun



“We do this because we care and we want everyone to receive the best support they can get”.



Launching the Moorfields Youth Forum



Learn more about the other projects the charity is funding.



Moorfields Eye Charity is proudly supporting the new Moorfields Youth Forum, which is being established and facilitated by Jacqueline Miller, children's research nurse at Moorfields Eye Hospital.

This initiative will bring together children and young people who are patients at Moorfields to share their views and help shape how services look, feel, and work. The Youth Forum aims to support service improvement, reflect on care experiences, explore new ideas, and ensure that young people's voices are heard across the organisation.

It will have opportunities to offer insight into wider projects at Moorfields, including the development of and transition to the Moorfields and UCL Centre for Eye Health. They will be able to share their

“The Youth Forum creates a space for children and young people to have a real voice in shaping Moorfields’ services. It gives us the opportunity to use our lived experiences to influence meaningful, lasting improvements for all patients”

Natasha, Forum member



perspectives on shaping the new centre and how the generosity of donors is reflected and understood. Also, they will explore the relationships and stories behind donor support to strengthen the connection between philanthropy and the real world experiences of children and young people at Moorfields, highlighting the vital role

donors play in supporting future generations.

Thanks to the generosity of The Steel Charitable Trust, the charity can support the Youth Forum.

“**Moorfields Eye Charity is incredibly inspiring and generous. Their support creates opportunities that truly benefit children and young people.**”

”
Jacqueline Miller



Moorfields breakthrough treatment shows promise in children

Five years ago, NICE (the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence) [approved a groundbreaking genetic therapy to treat a rare eye disease \(leber congenital amaurosis, or LCA\) that leads to sight loss.](#)

The therapy delivers working copies of the RPE65 gene, to enable the production of the protein required to maintain health photoreceptor cells in the retina.

This treatment has now shown promise in children in a Great Ormond Street Hospital GOSHstudyo

Robert Henderson, consultant ophthalmologist at Moorfields and GOSH, said: “Even small improvements in a child’s ability to see make a profound difference. [Our approach] could help set a new standard for how

future paediatric gene therapy trials are assessed around the world.”

Five years on – “I am eternally grateful to them”.

To mark this milestone, we asked Jake Ternent, the first adult to receive the treatment on the NHS, how it has helped him:

“No words can fully describe how much my self-confidence has improved. Independence is key to me, being able to leave the house by myself, walk to my local bus stop and enjoy the beautiful coastline in the north-east.

“My nighttime and distance vision have improved; I was the first to see Wembley stadium when we went there for the recent cup final – I sometimes leave my dad speechless.

Jake added, about his



team at Moorfields:

“They have changed my life in so many ways and I am eternally grateful to them. I live my life now without the feeling that this may be the last day I can see.”

“**Five years on – “I am eternally grateful to them”.**”



”

Jake Ternent



[Click here](#) for the GOSH web page (which explains more about the treatment, including six year old Saffie’s story).

[Click here](#) for the full interview with Jake.

Magella Neveu awarded prestigious fellowship

Magella, operations manager, consultant clinical scientist and lead healthcare scientist for electrophysiology, has been awarded an honorary fellowship by the Academy for Healthcare Science.



This celebrates those who go above and beyond in supporting the Academy's work and championing the healthcare science workforce.

Magella said: "I am truly honoured and deeply grateful. This recognition reflects the values and commitment that underpin our profession; it inspires me to continue contributing to its advancement".

NIHR senior research leader awards for three Moorfields colleagues

Tendai Gwenhure (clinical educator), Vijay Tailor-Hamblin (orthoptist) and Nicola Dunlop (see p30) have successfully applied for funding for the highly regarded NIHR (National Institute of Health and Social Care Research) senior research leader programme.

It is a three-year programme which allows protected time for research for two days a week, developing academic

links, piloting initiatives and developing the research capacity and capability for nurses and allied health professionals at Moorfields.



Tendai Gwenhure



Vijay Tailor-Hamblin

Patient dignity packs pilot



Friends of Moorfields and our patient experience coordinators have recently launched kits with essentials to support patients who have accidentally soiled themselves.

These come in five sizes, and contain a fresh padded undergarment, new clothes, sanitiser and

wipes and bags for the soiled garments.

The packs are being piloted at Hoxton and City Road.



Gary wins national cleaning award



Gary Powell, from our Medirest team, was named ‘Domestic of the Year’ at the 2026 My Cleaning awards.

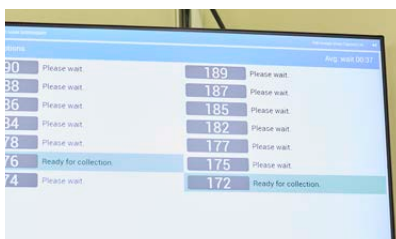


He has been “Instrumental in transforming the cleaning standards at Moorfields Eye Hospital” by initiating a project to improve the appearance of an area at City Road.

Shorter waits in pharmacy

In response to patient feedback, we have introduced a new system to avoid long waits in our busy City Road pharmacy.

Prescriptions are now labelled, meaning we can track where each one is, and how long it is since we received it. We also have a display board to show you when it is ready for you.



UCL turns 200

Throughout 2026, there will be a diverse program of activities, events and initiatives designed to highlight UCL’s pioneering achievements and contributions. UCL is ranked ninth in both the QS world and the Times UK university rankings.

The Institute of Ophthalmology (IoO) merged with UCL in 1995, benefitting from its vibrant network of scientists, students and researchers. The institute’s ongoing collaboration with Moorfields has been central to this relationship, particularly since relocating from Judd Street to Bath Street, closer to Moorfields at City Road.

Moorfields and UCL Centre for Eye Health will move Moorfields Eye Hospital and the UCL IoO under one roof in Camden. This centre will create an environment for innovation to flourish, bringing clinicians and researchers together in the same building for the first time.



Celebrate the amazing people at Moorfields!

Nominate a member of staff or a colleague for our Stars Awards, recognising excellence, equity and kindness.

Say thank you to those who go above and beyond.

Submit your nomination: scan the QR code, visit <https://bit.ly/Stars2026>, or complete a nomination form in clinics.



Deadline:
5pm, 17 July



Nicola awarded prestigious RCN Fellowship

Dr Nicola Dunlop, adnexal nurse consultant and UCL honorary associate lecturer, was one of just five nurses to be elected as RCN (Royal College of Nursing) Fellows, for her exceptional contribution to nursing and improving health care, in their 2026 awards.

Her nominators said: “Nicola’s career is defined by her pioneering innovation, her dedication to rigorous educational replication, her leadership in translating research to practice, and her effective national advocacy. She is, without question, an outstanding role model”

She was also “immensely proud” to be honoured, separately, by patients as Dystonia UK’s Masked Hero.

Moorfields videos help patients nationally

NHS England has now uploaded a series of three patient videos for ophthalmology to their [Youtube channel](#), all filmed with Moorfields consultant ophthalmologists.

The third, just published, is on glaucoma and features Renata Puertas. These join diabetic retinopathy screening (Sharon Heng) and cataracts (Badrul Hussain).

These important resources will help patients across the country to understand the treatment they're about to receive, and what it entails.



[Watch](#) Renata's video on glaucoma

[Watch](#) Sharon Heng's video on diabetic retinopathy screening.

[Watch](#) Badrul Hussain's video on cataracts.



Moorfields Private specialists acclaimed

The highly prestigious Tatler Doctors Guide features just five ophthalmologists - two are current Moorfields consultants, David Gartry and Carlos Pavesio, and two others are ex-Moorfields.



David said: "I am truly honoured to be recognised. London is home to so many exceptional specialists, so to be singled out in this way is both humbling and immensely gratifying."

GOVERNORS



Annual General Meeting 2026

Monday 14 September
City Road restaurant
Email moorfields.foundation@nhs.net
for full details

Dates for your diary 2026/7

Board meetings

30 July 2026
24 September 2026
26 November 2026
4 February 2027

Membership council

3 September 2026
26 November 2026
4 March 2027

Please email moorfields.foundation@nhs.net to attend (via Microsoft Teams).

C O N T A C T U S

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Web: moorfields.nhs.uk

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Moorfields Private Outpatient Centre

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