



Glaucoma service-Moorfields at Bedford

Glaucoma screening and monitoring service

If you are attending this service for the first time (screening):

Your GP or optometrist has referred you to have your eyes examined to assess whether you might have - or might be at risk of developing - a condition called glaucoma. Glaucoma affects the nerve at the back of the eye and, if left untreated, could eventually lead to irreversible sight loss.

If you have previously attended the glaucoma service (monitoring):

The clinician who saw you previously advised that your condition is stable. Although we need to continue to monitor your eyes, you will not need to see the doctor on the day of your tests.

How does the glaucoma screening and monitoring service work?

The service is delivered by specially trained ophthalmic practitioners. You will have several eye tests including:

- tonometry eye pressure check.
- visual fields a test to evaluate whether there is any sight loss affecting your side vision.

 digital imaging –specialist instruments will be used to give a detailed assessment of the appearance of the optic nerve at the back of your eye.

Please do not drive to your appointment. This is because we may need to use eye drops to enlarge the pupil so that we can get good quality images and these drops will blur your vision for between two and six hours. Please arrange for someone to pick you up after your appointment.

Will I see a doctor at this appointment?

No, you will not see a doctor at this appointment; however your tests will be reviewed by a glaucoma doctor within a few weeks. You will then be sent a letter explaining the outcome, which will also be sent to your GP. Depending on the test results, you might be given a follow up appointment with us or you may be discharged back to your local optician for routine checkups.

What do I need to bring with me on the day?

You will need to bring:

- a list of any medications you are taking.
- a list of any eye drops you are taking.
- your most recent distance and reading glasses, or your most recent glasses prescription.

How long will the appointment take? We aim to finish all your tests in two

hours.

Your comments

After the assessment we will provide you with a feedback form so that you can let us know about your experience. Your views are important to help us to improve the service for other patients.

Author: Julie Smith, medical photographer

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Moorfields Eye Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

Bedford Hospital South Wing Kempston Road Bedford MK42 9DJ

Phone: 01234 355122 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

www.moorfields.nhs.uk

