Glaucoma screening service

What is the glaucoma service?
Your general practitioner (GP) and/or optometrist has referred you to have your eyes examined to assess whether you might have a condition called glaucoma. Glaucoma affects the nerve at the back of the eye and, if left untreated, can lead to irreversible sight loss.

How does the glaucoma screening service at Bedford work?
The service is run by specialist trained ophthalmic practitioners. You will not see a doctor on the day, but 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

Test results will be reviewed by a consultant eye doctor and you will receive a letter explaining the outcome, which will be copied to your GP.

Depending on the test results, you might be given a follow up appointment with us for further assessments, or be discharged back to your local optician for annual check-ups.

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

These will be kept in your hospital notes. In addition, please bring your most recent glasses prescription, or most recent distance and reading glasses.

How long is the screening appointment?
We aim to finish all your tests in around one hour.

Please arrive on time for your appointment as we may not be able to see you if you are late.
Your comments
At the end of the assessment, we may provide you with a feedback form so that you can let us know about your experience. Your views are important to us and help us to improve the service for other patients.

Further information
For further information, please see our patient information video at:

www.moorfields.nhs.uk/content/screening-and-stable-monitoring-service

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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)
Moorfields at Bedford
Phone: 01234 01234 795814
Email: pals@bedfordhospital.nhs.uk

The 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. 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.