

General information

Should you not be able to attend your second appointment please telephone the practice to let us know. We will be happy to rearrange the appointment at a suitable time, but this must be within 2 weeks of the original appointment.

Should you not attend your appointment and the practice has not been informed we will write to your GP with our original findings and you will probably be given an appointment at the hospital. The waiting time for a hospital appointment in the eye department is currently about 15-18 weeks.

Dilated retinal examination

When you call back you will have some drops put into your eyes. These will take about 15-20 minutes to take effect and cause your pupils to dilate.

Once your pupils have dilated the optometrist will be able to examine the back of your eye very thoroughly using a special lens and a special eye microscope called a slit lamp.

Should anything abnormal be found during this examination we will again refer you to your GP with a recommendation that you are seen by an eye specialist at the hospital.

If there are no abnormalities found then we will be able to see you as normal when you return for your regular scheduled eye examination.

Please Note:

These dilating drops may cause some blurring of vision for some time (typically 2-3 hours) following instillation.

For this reason you should not drive afterwards

Please make alternative travel arrangements if you were intending to drive to and from this appointment.

Also as the drops cause the pupils to dilate it is common to experience a degree of light sensitivity following the appointment and it would be advisable to bring some dark glasses in case it is sunny on the day of your appointment.

**REFERRAL REFINEMENT
INFORMATION LEAFLET**

**This leaflet is also
available in large print**

Practice Stamp

Practice Stamp

Thank you for coming for your eye examination today.

Your optometrist has requested that you come back and see him/her again for a second examination. The test(s) that will be carried out at this examination are ticked below.

- Intra Ocular Pressures
- Visual Field Assessment
- Dilated Retinal Examination

Intra ocular pressure measurement.

The pressure inside your eye can be dependent on many factors. It may vary according to the time of day or it can be raised simply due to slight apprehension of the procedure itself.

More seriously it can be a sign of glaucoma, a condition that is virtually symptom free to begin with, but can damage ones eyesight if it is not caught and controlled at an early stage.

When you return for your repeat examination the optometrist will check your pressures again, this time with a different instrument which is more consistent with methods used at the hospital.

Should the pressures still be high we will refer you to your GP with a recommendation that you are seen by an eye specialist so that the cause of your raised intra ocular pressure can be determined.

Should the pressures be back within the normal range we will be able to just keep a regular check here at the practice when you come for your regular eye examinations.

Visual field assessment.

Your visual field can also vary for many reasons. Sometimes facial features, spectacle frames, and even tiredness can all flag up a deficient visual field.

Such problems are easily explained and hence these are not reasons that would require referral to a hospital.

To eliminate these factors we will repeat the field test using a more detailed setting on the machine. This will give us a very accurate assessment of your visual field. Since you will now be used to the instrument, any errors that were initially caused by unfamiliarity will be eliminated too.

Should there be a reduction or a problem with your visual field this is always something that should be investigated further by a specialist in the hospital and again we will refer you to your GP in the first instance with a recommendation that you are referred appropriately to the hospital.

Please find opposite a short set of questions that we would like you to answer for us. Your responses will enable us to evaluate this scheme and make improvements.

Please have a look through the questions and answer them following your second appointment. Please then detach this and post it back to us in the pre paid envelope.

Thank you for taking the time to do this.

Patient questionnaire

I would have preferred to attend the hospital for these tests rather than have them done by my optometrist.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

I consider that there was a long time between my appointments

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

Overall, please rate your satisfaction regarding the fact that this service was available locally rather than involved a visit to the hospital.

- Extremely satisfied
- Quite satisfied
- Neither satisfied or unsatisfied
- Quite unsatisfied
- Extremely unsatisfied

What date was your first appointment?

What date was your second appointment?

