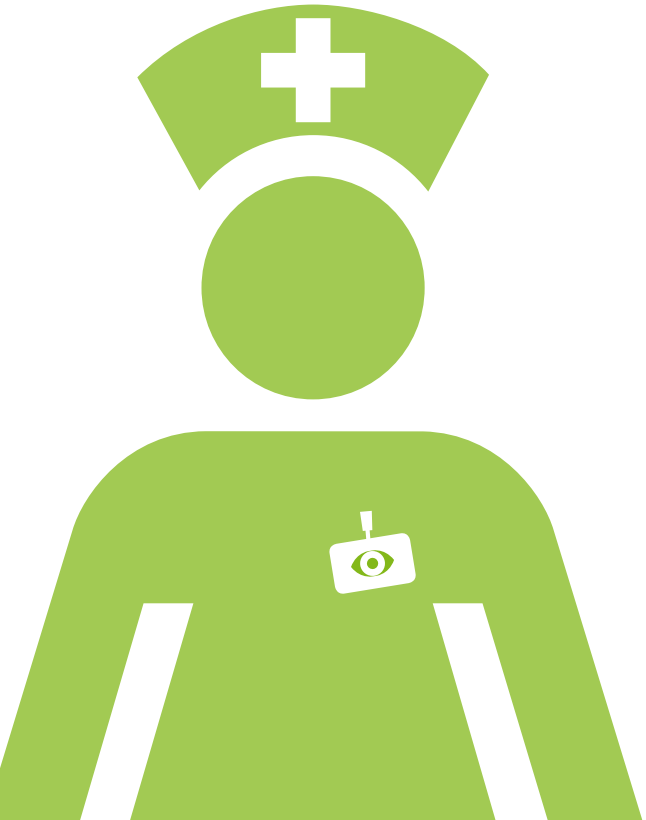
Moorfields Eye Hospital NHS
NHS Foundation Trust

Welcome to Moorfields



All you need to know about your visit to the eye clinic

Your visit to the eye clinic

This leaflet tells you what will happen when you visit the eye clinic.

Our staff are very friendly and will look after you during your visit, so please ask them about anything you do not understand.

We hope you have an enjoyable visit.



Where do I go when I arrive?

When you arrive, please give your letter or appointment card to the receptionist who will show you where to go.





Who will look after me?

Your nurse or optician will meet you and take care of you from then on.



What will happen to me?

The nurse or optician will sit with you in one of the clinic rooms and explain everything that will happen during your visit.



They will ask you some questions about your eyes, your health, your medicines, and your day-to-day activities. This information helps us to get to know you better. If you have a carer or family member, they can stay with you all of the time.

What tests will I have?

We will need to test your eye sight. This can be done with letters, pictures or objects.

You do not need to be able to read to have your sight tested.



We might ask you to look through different lenses to see if they might improve your sight, and we may use a 'test frame' which is like wearing a large pair of glasses that we can put different lenses in.



The test frame does not touch your eye or hurt at all.

How will you look at my eye?

We might need to shine a bright light in your eye to help us see a little better. We might turn down the lights while we look at your eye and gently hold your eyelids out of the way.

We will also want to look at your eye on a machine called a slit lamp. It shines a beam of light into your eye and lets us see your eye in close-up.



The light from the slit lamp does not hurt or touch your eye, but it can be bright.

Will I need to have eye drops?

Eye drops help us look at the back of your eye or numb your eye for some tests.



The drops might sting a little, but only for a few seconds.

Some drops will make your vision blurred, but things will return to normal after an hour or two.

Will I see a doctor?

If your visit is to the optician you might not need to see any one else.

Whether you see an optician, a nurse, or a doctor, they will talk to you about your eyes.

Do not be afraid to ask any questions you may have.

And please ask whoever sees you to explain things again if you do not understand the first time.





Will I need any other tests?

Depending on your eye problem, you might need other tests.

These could include having a photograph taken of your eye, or a test to measure your eye and the pressure in your eye. We use different types of equipment to do this, and mostly you just need to put your chin on a rest and look at a light.



These tests do not hurt, though we might need to touch your eye very gently with a small measuring device.

At the end of your visit.

At the end of your visit, the optician, doctor or nurse will give you and your carer or family member a summary of your visit and any important information you need about eye drops or glasses.

If you need a further appointment, you will be given the time and date.

You will also be given a telephone number to call if you have any questions or worries after you have left.



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We look forward to seeing you!



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 to Friday, 9am to 4.30pm, for information and advice on eye conditions and treatments from experienced ophthalmic-trained nurses.

Moorfields Eye Hospital is committed to seeing all patients within 18 weeks of a referral by a GP in line with the NHS constitution.

TPW/LDC/21/2/11