

## Information for Patients

# Diabetic Maculopathy Referral Clinic

## Why have you been offered an appointment in the Diabetic Maculopathy Referral Clinic?

You have been offered an appointment in the Diabetic Maculopathy referral clinic as you have changes at the back of your eye relating to diabetes. You may not be aware of these changes to begin with nevertheless they can progress, potentially resulting in loss of vision. It is very important therefore that these changes are monitored and you may require treatment in the future. If you do require further investigations and/or treatment you will be offered a further appointment.

## What is the Diabetic Maculopathy Referral Clinic?

To reduce waiting times and streamline the service, Manchester Royal Eye Hospital has set up a specialised clinic where you have photographs and a scan taken of the back of your eyes. The results of these tests will be reviewed by a member of the clinical team who will make a decision about any treatment or further review.

## What will happen when you attend the clinic?

Following arrival at the clinic:

- Your vision will be checked by reading an eye chart.
- You will be asked about your previous medical history in particular when you were diagnosed with diabetes, your diabetic control (your HbA1c), your blood pressure and cholesterol and any medication that you are on. Please bring a list of your medication with you.
- Drops will be put in your eyes to enlarge your pupils. **You are advised not to drive as your vision will be blurred for around 4-6 hours.**
- An Ophthalmic Imaging Specialist will take photographs and a scan of the back of your eyes.

All of these tests are painless; however, the eye drops may sting slightly, and as mentioned will blur your vision for around 4-6 hours. It is envisaged that your appointment can take up to 2 hours.

## **What happens after I have attended this clinic?**

Your results will be reviewed by a clinician who will contact you by letter to let you know whether a further follow up appointment is required.

A report of the visit and results of the review will be sent to your GP to ensure they have complete records of your care.

This service is for assessing your diabetic eye changes only. If you or your GP have any other concerns about your ocular health, please inform us so an appropriate alternative appointment can be arranged.

**Do you know your last HbA1C (long term blood sugar)? If you do, please let us know.**

**Also please bring a list of your current medication with you to your appointment.**