

Medical Retina Assessment Clinic

What is the Medical Retina Assessment Clinic?

We have given you this factsheet because either you are waiting for an appointment in the Medical Retina Clinic and have been selected as being suitable for this type of assessment clinic; or at your current appointment your specialist has advised this clinic for your next review. It means you will not need to see a doctor for the assessment to take place. Instead, one of our doctors will use your scans, images and documents to assess your eye condition. You will receive a written report confirming the progress in your eye condition.

Why have we introduced the Medical Retina Assessment Clinic?

By assessing you in the Medical Retina Assessment Clinic, we can make sure you get the best care as quickly as possible and with less delay in relation to your planned appointment time. It also means you can reduce your hospital visit time.

Your plan of care

At your appointment, we will check that any concerns you have are recorded on a questionnaire and measure your vision. You will have drops in your eyes to enlarge your pupils. This can blur the vision a little for a few hours so you are advised not to drive to your appointment. You will then go to the imaging department and have some scans and photographs of your eyes. You may then go home. A doctor will review your assessment within two weeks, and we will contact you and your GP with the results by post.

- If we need to see you in person to discuss things or assess you further, we will send you an appointment letter in the post with full instructions on where and when the appointment will be.

- If we need to see you again in the Medical Retina Assessment Clinic we will send you an appointment letter in the post.
- If we do not need to see you back in clinic, we will write to you with the reasons why.

Seating

Wherever possible please bring only **one** relative with you to your appointment as there is only limited seating in the clinic areas.

- At this visit and at future visits, it is likely that you will need to have some dilating drops instilled in your eye to enlarge your pupils.
- These will cause some blurring of your vision for 4-6 hours.
- The Eye Hospital atrium can be very bright.
- If you have had drops to dilate your pupils, wearing sunglasses when you leave may help prevent the bright light from hurting your eyes.

Appointment time

- We aim to see you within 30 minutes of your appointment time. It may appear that patients arriving after you are being seen before you.
- This is because there may be a number of different clinics being held in one clinic area at the same time.
- If you have any concerns whilst you are waiting to be seen please let one of our nurses know.

Please note the above is applicable not only for your first but subsequent visits too.

Getting here

If possible we would strongly recommend using public transport to get here. Our hospitals are in dense urban locations where roads are often busy and parking is often oversubscribed. All our hospitals are served by many bus routes and other community transport services which are detailed on our website <https://mft.nhs.uk/royal-eye/patients-visitors/visitors/getting-here/>

For information about any public transport services please contact Transport for Greater Manchester on 0871 200 2233. Their lines are open between 7.00am - 8.00pm on

Monday to Friday, and from 8.00am to 8.00pm on weekends and bank holidays. You can also visit their website <https://www.tfgm.com/>

General traffic is now prohibited from travelling through new 'bus gates' on Oxford Road, which restrict access to sections of the corridor between Hathersage Road and Portland Street. These gates are in force between 6am - 9pm, 7 days a week and make travelling by bus, cycle and on foot easier and quicker.

Motorists should use Upper Brook Street when heading in to or out of the city centre.

We are currently running a free electric shuttle bus around the central site, taking patients and visitors from the two main car parks at Grafton Street and Hathersage Road from the car park entrance to their hospital door. This currently operates during daytime hours only; look out for the yellow bus stops and mini electric bus.

Wi-Fi

Manchester Foundation Trust is now providing free Wi-Fi to all patients and visitors to our hospitals. Look for the Wi-Fi network NHS Wi-Fi and connect your device. There are no passwords to remember, just provide your details to connect.

The network allows patients and visitors to browse the internet and use their apps. There are restrictions on – video streaming, movies, TV shows & streaming media.

Please be aware, this service is provided without warranty or technical support.