

## Information for Patients

# Enhanced Diabetic Assessment Clinic

### What is the diabetic assessment clinic?

Manchester Royal Eye Hospital (MREH) has set up specialist clinics around Greater Manchester. These are to assess diabetic eye changes for our patients. They are carried out at the following sites:

- MREH (Oxford Road site)
- Altrincham General Hospital
- Trafford General Hospital
- Harpurhey Centre

### Why do I need to come?

All people with diabetes need to have diabetic eye screening. Only those with more advanced changes need to be seen within the enhanced diabetic assessment clinic. If you have been referred to our diabetic eye clinics, you will need a more detailed assessment. This means that any treatment needed can be planned or you can be monitored by our team.

You may not be aware of these changes to begin with. However, if they progress, they can cause problems with your vision. The earlier we spot the changes that need treatment, the better.

You do not need to attend both the retinal screening and the diabetic eye clinics at MREH. If you do have an appointment for both, please come to the diabetic assessment clinic at MREH and we can inform the screening programme that you are under our care.

## What do I need to bring with me?

- A list of your current medication.
- Your last HbA1C (long term blood sugar level).
- Your last cholesterol level and blood pressure measures.
- Distance glasses.
- Sunglasses (to help your eyes feel comfortable after having drops).
- Any questions or concerns you may have about your eyes or vision.

## What will happen when I attend the diabetic assessment clinic?

At the clinic:

- You will not see a clinician at this visit.
- Your vision will be checked by reading the eye chart.
- You will be asked about your medical history and diabetes.
- You will have your eye pressure checked.
- Eye drops will be put into your eyes to enlarge your pupils.
- You will have photographs and a scan taken of the back of your eyes.
- After this you can go home.

**Please allow up to two hours for the appointment. Please do not drive to this or any diabetic eye appointment. You will receive eye drops at every visit and your vision will be blurred for 4-6 hours.**

After the appointment:

- A clinician will review your images and information.
- You will receive a report of the visit. A copy will be sent to your GP and to the diabetic eye screening programme. This is so they have complete records of your care. The report will let you know if any treatment is needed and when to expect your next appointment.

If you are unable to attend or require any further information please contact us on (0161) 701 2950 Monday -Friday 08.30am -4.40 pm.