

Glaucoma Unit



Information for patients

Ophthalmology (Glaucoma)



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Why do I need to attend the Glaucoma Unit?

The recent eye test carried out by your optician indicated that you may have a problem with your eyes.

To check if this is the case, your optician has referred you to the Glaucoma Unit at the Royal Hallamshire Hospital. In the Glaucoma Unit we repeat the tests your optician carried out in more detail and use different methods to establish whether you have a problem or not.



What tests will I have at the unit?

At the unit, we will carry out a number of different tests including:

- **A vision check.** If you wear them, please bring your distance glasses as you will need them for this test.
- **A more detailed visual field analysis test.** Your optician may have already carried out a similar but less detailed field analysis. The one we do at the unit will take longer to complete.
- **A scan.** In this test, we use a type of camera to scan the back of your eyes. This only takes a few minutes to complete. The process is painless but you will need to keep very still.
- **A pressure check.** Your optician will probably have carried out a pressure check, sometimes called a 'puff of air' test. We will repeat this test so we can re-check your eye pressure.

If it is your **first visit** to the glaucoma unit you will have a photo taken of the back of your eye. You will also have an examination of the front of your eye; this involves the use of an eye drop to anaesthetise the front of your eye. This procedure involves the use of a special contact lens; the process is painless but requires you to keep very still.

Consent

As with any procedure we need to seek your consent beforehand. Staff will explain any risks, benefits and possible alternatives to you. If you have any queries regarding any of the tests please don't hesitate to ask for further details.

When and how will I get my results?

We will send you your results by letter within six weeks of having the tests.

What will happen if the tests show that I have a problem?

If the tests indicate that you may have a problem, we will either:

- Send you an appointment to see the nurse consultant or a doctor who will assess your condition further.
- Or, arrange regular appointments for you at the unit so that we can use the same kinds of tests to monitor your condition. This is in order to help ensure your condition remains stable and prevent you from developing any problems in the future.

What happens if the tests show that I do not have a problem?

If the tests show that you do not have a problem then we will send you the results of your tests by letter.

You will not need any further appointments but you should continue to have your eyes checked regularly by your optician.

What if I have any questions?

Should you have any questions or concerns following your appointment, please contact the Ophthalmic Imaging staff on:

- **0114 226 1460**



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