



# Virtual Glaucoma Clinics and Glaucoma Refinement Clinics

**Eye Clinic**  
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**(8am - 5pm)**

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Date written: February 2017  
Last reviewed: Sept 2017  
Review date: Feb 2020  
Version: 1.1  
Code: PI1448

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The evidence used in the preparation of this leaflet is available on request. Please email [patient.information@salisbury.nhs.uk](mailto:patient.information@salisbury.nhs.uk) if you would like a reference list.

# information

## **What is a virtual glaucoma clinic?**

Patients with suspected or diagnosed glaucoma or ocular hypertension (raised eye pressures) are seen by trained ophthalmic assistant/associate practitioners who complete a number of tests with each patient as part of their routine care. The typical visit time is 60-70 minutes for most patients with appointments available throughout the week.

## **What is a glaucoma refinement clinic?**

Patients newly referred to the Eye Clinic by their optician who may be concerned about either raised eye pressure, abnormal field test, or scan results may initially be seen in a refinement clinic. The ophthalmic assistant/associate practitioners will complete a number of tests with each patient. The typical visit time is 60-90 minutes.

## **What test might I have?**

- sight test – please bring your distance glasses
- eye pressure check
- visual fields test
- scans and photographs of the optic nerve. Photographs require dilation of your pupils with eye drops.

Due to the effects of the drops you are advised not to drive until your pupils have returned to normal. This usually takes 2 or more hours.

## **What happens after my appointment?**

Your test results and measurements are sent to the doctors in the Glaucoma Team for 'virtual' assessment. They will electronically access your notes and any eye history you may have. The doctor will review your notes sometime during the week after your appointment.

The doctor will decide whether you need treatment, a change in treatment, or further follow up. If you need further follow up, such as seeing an eye doctor, an appointment letter will be sent to you closer to the time.

The doctor will complete your results letter which will be sent to your home address and a separate copy to your GP. If you require eye drops or a change to your eye drop medication, please see your GP for your prescription. If there are no concerns, the clinician may tell you that you have been discharged from the Eye Clinic.

We hope most patients using these services will not need to see an eye doctor for years. If you have any questions about your condition or treatment please mention this during your appointment. Answers to your questions will be included in your results letter.