

What should I do if my eye problem returns?

If you are unfortunate enough to suffer a reoccurrence of your eye condition you will need to return to your GP or Optician. It is also possible to attend an NHS Walk-in Centre. If necessary they will be able to arrange another rapid access appointment with the clinic.

Prescriptions

If the doctor gives you a prescription you will need to take it to the Rowlands Pharmacy within the hospital. You can find the Rowlands Pharmacy by going through Clinic 1.

In the rare instance you are seen after Lloyds Pharmacy has closed you will be given a prescription which you can take to an out of hours pharmacy. The closest one to the hospital is Boots Pharmacy located at the Carlton Centre on Outer Circle Road.

Will I have to go anywhere else for my treatment?

In some very rare instances where highly specialised treatment is needed, it may not be offered within United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust. It may be necessary for you to attend a specialist centre and this could mean travelling as far afield as London. The need to attend a specialist centre will be discussed with you in detail. Regrettably, because of the short notice nature of these appointments, transport to these specialist centres is the responsibility of the patient. However, we will try to help with addresses and directions where possible.

The Trust endeavours to ensure that the information given here is accurate and impartial.

If you require this information in another language, large print, audio (CD or tape) or braille please email the Patient Information team at patient.information@ulh.nhs.uk

Excellence in rural healthcare

NHS
United Lincolnshire
Hospitals
NHS Trust

Rapid Access Eye Clinic (Eye Casualty)

Clinic 8
Lincoln County Hospital
01522 307180
Monday to Friday 9.00am to 5.00pm
www.ulh.nhs.uk

Why am I here?

You have an appointment here today because a healthcare professional has deemed your eye condition to need an urgent assessment.

What will happen whilst I'm here?

Your vision will be assessed by one of the healthcare professionals in the clinic. If necessary you may have a variety of tests carried out.

You may need to have eye drops instilled by one of the nurses. If you need dilating drops they can blur your vision for 4 to 6 hours and you are advised not to drive whilst your vision is blurred.

You will be seen by a Doctor who will carry out a detailed examination of your eyes using a special microscope. It may be necessary for you to have further tests carried out following this examination. Unfortunately we are unable to guarantee that a specific Doctor will see you. The rapid access clinic is staffed on a rotation basis and you will be seen by the allocated Doctor for today.

How long will I be here?

The nature of the rapid access clinic means that we cannot accurately predict the number of patients we will need to see. This means we unfortunately cannot accurately predict how long your appointment will take.

Your appointment may take a considerable time as treating every patient's eye condition properly is imperative. This unfortunately means that you may be waiting a long time to see a Doctor. Please bear with us during this wait and rest assured that we are doing everything we can to minimise it.

A patient arrived after me and saw the Dr before me!

There are several clinics running alongside the rapid access clinic and there is every chance that the other patient has been called for a different clinic.

On occasions where a patient's eye condition is thought to be "sight threatening" they will see the doctor as a matter of priority. The nature of the rapid access clinic means that patients are being referred at all times of the day and night for a variety of eye conditions. This includes during the clinic session that is running. For this reason, rapid access patients are seen in order of priority and not necessarily in order of arrival.

Will I have to stay in hospital?

The majority of patients are discharged from the clinic on their first visit. Admissions into the hospital are rare and if you need to be admitted this will be fully explained to you.

Follow-up and Review appointments

If you need to be seen again a review appointment will be made for you. We aim to make the majority of review appointments in specialist consultant led review clinics. Occasionally, when a short notice review is needed it may not be possible to accommodate you in a review clinic. If this is the case you will be given another rapid access clinic appointment.

In some instances you will need to be seen on a daily basis for several days in a row. This is to ensure you are receiving the optimum level of care for your condition and this will be explained to you.