

Minor Eye Conditions (MECs)

Temporary expansion of pilot - COVID-19 response

Information for GPs

To assist with the current pressures in GP Practices and Hospitals, the CCG is temporarily expanding the Minor Eye Conditions (MECS) Pilot Service to enable GP Practices to signpost patients at the point of triage to a number of Opticians in the area that will be able to triage them via telephone / video call.

Further details including a Pathway can be found below. It still allows for GPs to refer directly to Secondary Care for patients who need it, but we hope by offering the triage service it will alleviate pressure on your service.

If this service is successful, after an initial 1-2 week period, we hope to be able to roll it out across Derby and Derbyshire as a temporary pathway change in response to COVID-19. We have also received guidance from NHS England this week that will require "red" and "green" sites (hot/cold) for optometrist practices to see patients presenting with urgent eye conditions. This triage forms part of processes already in place and fulfils requirements for green/cold sites that the CCG are required to provide. Work on the red/hot sites will begin upon receipt of guidance from NHSE/I.

Which patients can GP practices re-direct via the triage?

The inclusion criteria for the MECs service are as follows:

- Sudden onset loss of vision including transient loss
- Ocular pain
- Differential diagnosis of red eye
- Foreign body and emergency contact lens removal
- Dry eye
- Blepharitis
- Epiphora
- Trichiasis
- Differential diagnosis of lumps and bumps in the vicinity of the eye
- Flashes/floaters
- Patient reported sudden onset field defects

PLEASE NOTE: THIS SERVICE IS NOT FOR PATIENTS WITH RED FLAG SYMPTOMS.

Patients with red flag symptoms should be onward referred to secondary care as is currently the case.

There is a separate information sheet available to support patients, which includes the choice of service identified in the information below. Patients will be asked to contact the service themselves directly for triage via telephone / video call and for further advice.



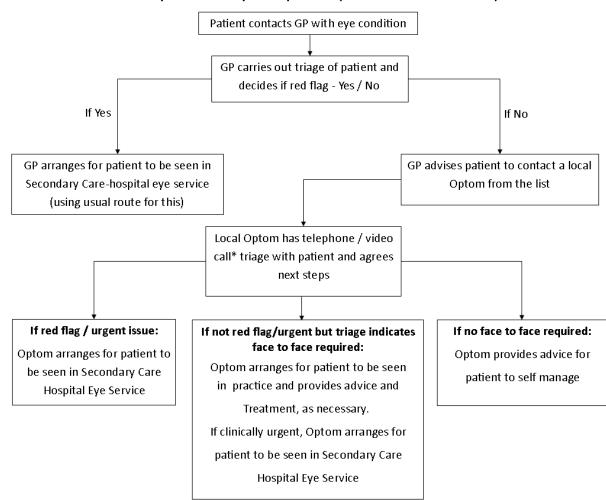
Practice Chesterfield & Northeast Derbyshire	Tel Number	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday			
Chesterfield Specsavers 2 Burlington Street											
Chesterfield S40 1RR	01246 222334	09:00-15:00	09:00-15:00	09:00-15:00	09:00-15:00	09:00-15:00	09:00-15:00	Closed			
Chesterfield Vision Express Unit 2, 16 Packers Row Chesterfield S40 1RB	01246 277432 Or 08000 3821777	Closed	10:00-17:00	10:00-17:00	10:00-17:00	10:00-17:00	10:00-17:00	Closed			
Elliott & Heath 79 Newbold Road Chesterfield S41 7QA	01246 275847	08:30-17:00	08:30-17:00	08:30-12:00	08:30-17:00	08:30-17:00	08:30-12:00	Closed			
Murgatroyd-Holmes 33 High Street Staveley S43 3UU	01246 477199	By Appointment									
Thomas & Holloway 33 Chesterfield Road Dronfield S18 2XA	01246 419408	09:00-13:00	09:00-13:00	09:00-13:00	09:00-13:00	09:00-13:00	Closed	Closed			
Matlock Specsavers 7 Crown Square Matlock DE4 3AT	01629 704000	By Appointment	By Appointment	By Appointment	By Appointment	By Appointment	By Appointment	Closed			



	Clinical Commissioning Group											
Hope Valley Opticians Hathersage Park, 5B Heather Lane Hathersage S32 1DP	01433 659565	10:00-16:30	Closed	10:00-16:30	Closed	10:00-16:30	Closed	Closed				
Crystal Peaks Specsavers Unit 50D, Crystal Peaks Shopping Centre Mosborough, Sheffield S20 7PN	01142 513111	10:00-16:00	10:00-16:00	10:00-16:00	10:00-16:00	10:00-16:00	Closed	Closed				
Norton Specsavers Unit 9A, St James Retail Park, Bochum Parkway Norton, Sheffield S8 8BS	01142 839731	10:00-16:00	10:00-16:00	10:00-16:00	10:00-16:00	10:00-16:00	10:00-16:00	Closed				



Minor Eye Conditions Optometry Service (COVID-19 INTERIM PATHWAY)



*Video calling has been available for some time in Optometric practices and may be utilised for the primary care element of this service.