**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.

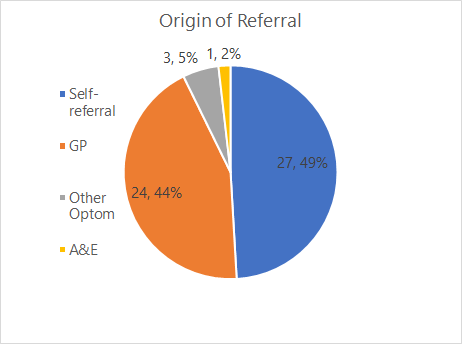
Following an initial successful two week pilot this service is now rolling out across Derby and Derbyshire as a temporary pathway change in response to COVID-19. We have also received guidance from NHS England that requires “red” and “green” sites (hot/cold) for Optometrist practices to see patients presenting with urgent eye conditions directly, with appropriate PPE precautions.

You can find evaluation of the pilot below for your information.

The data has been collected from all 9 practices in North East Derbyshire who have been involved in the pilot and these are; Specsavers at Chesterfield, Matlock, Norton and Crystal Peaks, Vision Express in Chesterfield, Hope Valley Opticians (Hathersage), Elliott & Heath (Chesterfield), Thomas & Holloway (Dronfield), and Murgatroyd-Holmes (Staveley).

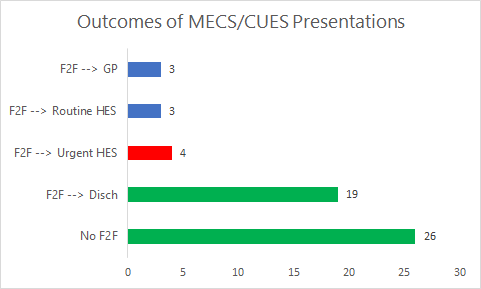
Data shown for the 7 day period Thursday 23rd - Wednesday 29th April (inclusive), **55 patients** have presented to the Minor Eye Conditions Service (MECs) / COVID-19 Urgent Eyecare Service (CUES).

**Origin of referral:**



As illustrated, the vast majority were either self-referrals (27 patients) or referred from GP (24 patients). This means 24 GP appointments directly saved plus a proportion of those self-referring would be likely to contact their GP as the next port of call.

**Outcomes:**



Of the 55 MECS/CUES presentations, just under half (26 patients) didn't need to be seen in person and were discharged with advice.  29 patients were seen in person with PPE. Of these, a further 19 were discharged after a F2F consultation.  **In total, 45 out of 55 patients were discharged (82%)**.  A further three each were referred back to their GP or required routine referral to HES (which can be delayed during the COVID period). Only 4 patients (7%) required urgent referral to HES - two patients with papilloedema, one patient with diabetic macular oedema, and one with severe eye pain.

**Outcomes of GP referrals:**

Of 24 patients referred from GPs, 13 (54%) were dealt with remotely and a further 6 (25%) were discharged after F2F consultation - **in total, 79% discharged**. One patient referred from the GP with headaches had papilloedema and required urgent referral to Hospital Ophthalmology/Neurology.

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

The inclusion criteria for the MECs service are as follows:

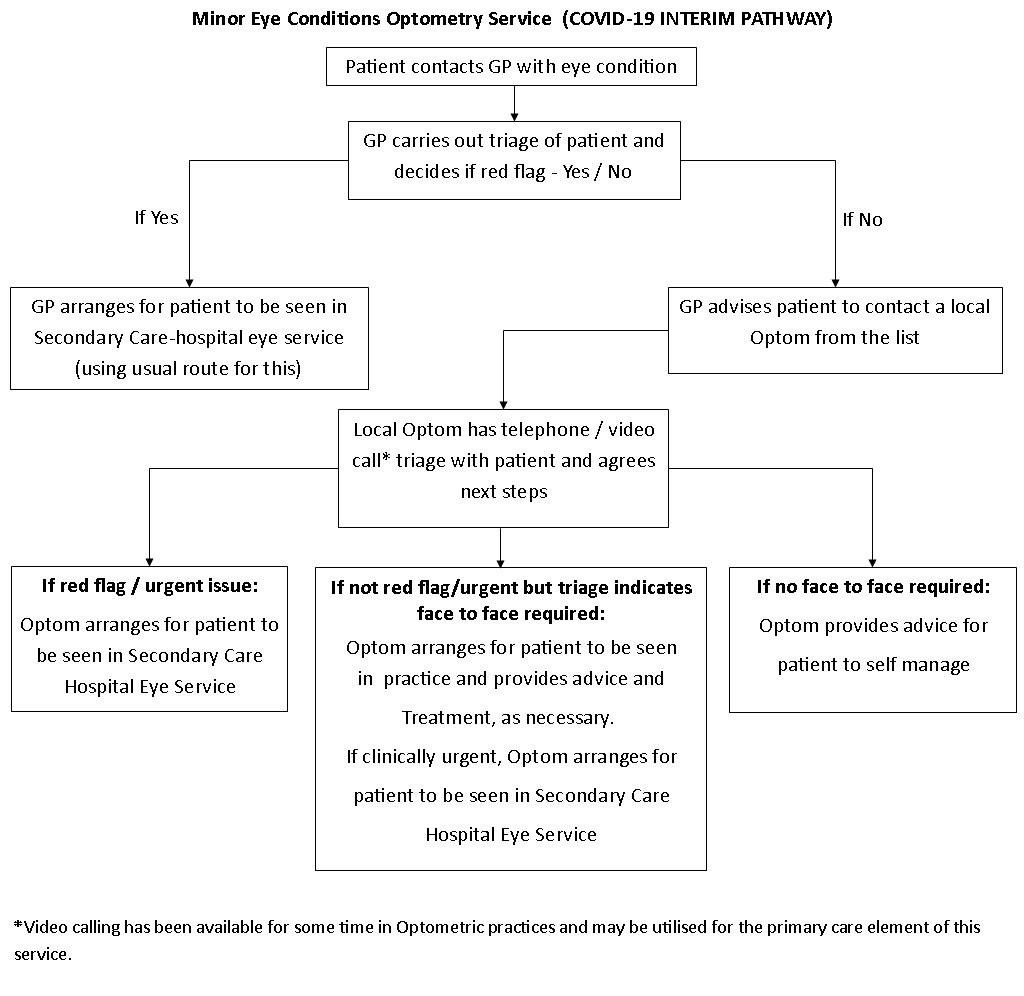
* Sudden onset loss of vision including transient loss where a red flag cause is not suspected
* Ocular pain
* Differential diagnosis of red eye
* Foreign body and emergency contact lens removal
* Dry eye
* Blepharitis
* Epiphora
* Trichiasis
* Differential diagnosis of lumps and bumps in the vicinity 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 referred directly 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.

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|  |  |  |  |  | **Opening Hours** |  |  |  |  | |  |  |
| **Practice** | **Address** | **Town** | **Post**  **code** | **Tel Number** | **Monday** | **Tuesday** | **Wednesday** | **Thursday** | **Friday** | | **Saturday** | **Sunday** |
| **Chesterfield & Northeast Derbyshire** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |
| Chesterfield Specsavers | 2 Burlington Street | Chesterfield | S40 1RR | 01246  222334 | 08:30-17:30 | 08:30-17:30 | 08:30-19:00 | 08:30-19:00 | | 08:30-17:30 | 09:00-17:30 | 10:00-16:00 |
| Chesterfield Vision Express | Unit 2, 16 Packers Row | Chesterfield | S40 1RB | 01246  277432  08000  3821777 | 09:00-17:30 | 08:45-18:00 | 09:00-17:30 | 08:45-18:00 | | 09:00-17:30 | 09:00-17:30 | 10:00-16:00 |
| 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 | 09:00-17:30 | 09:00-17:30 | 09:00-17:30 | 09:00-17:30 | | 09:00-17:30 | 09:00-12:00 | Closed |
| Thomas & Holloway | 33 Chesterfield Road | Dronfield | S18 2XA | 01246  419408 | 09:00-17:30 | 09:00-17:30 | 09:00-20:00 | 09:00-17:30 | | 09:00-17:30 | 09:00-13:00 | Closed |
| Matlock Specsavers | 7 Crown Square | Matlock | DE4 3AT | 01629  704000 01246  222334 | 09:00-17:30 | 09:30-17:30 | 09:00-17:30 | 09:00-17:30 | | 09:00-17:30 | 09:00-17:00 | 10:00-16:00 |
| Hope Valley Opticians | Hathersage Park, 5B Heather Lane | Hathersage | S32 1DP | 01433  659565 | 09:00-17:30 | 09:00-17:30 | 09:00-17:30 | 09:00-19:30 | | 09:00-17:30 | 09:00-13:00 | Closed |
| Crystal Peaks Specsavers | Unit 50D, Crystal Peaks Shopping Centre | Mosborough, Sheffield | S20 7PN | 01142  513111 | 08:45-17:30 | 08:45-17:30 | 08:45-17:30 | 08:45-18:30 | | 08:45-18:30 | 08:45-17:30 | 10:00-16:00 |
| Norton Specsavers | Unit 9A, St James Retail Park, Bochum Parkway | Norton, Sheffield | S8 8BS | 01142  839731 | 09:00-17:30 | 09:00-17:30 | 09:00-19:00 | 09:00-17:30 | | 09:00-17:30 | 09:00-17:30 | 10:00-16:00 |
| **Buxton & Northwest Derbyshire** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |
| Buxton Boots | Unit 4, Spring Gardens Shopping Centre | Buxton | SK17 6DE | 01298  22443 | 09:00-17:00 | 09:00-17:00 | 09:00-17:00 | 09:00-17:00 | | 09:00-17:00 | 09:00-17:00 | Closed |
| Buxton Specsavers | Unit 14, Spring Gardens Shopping Centre | Buxton | SK17 6DF | 01298  766130 | 09:00-18:00 | 09:00-18:00 | 09:00-18:00 | 09:00-18:00 | | 09:00-17:30 | 09:00-17:30 | 10:00-16:00 |
| Jenks-Burgess | 24 Market Street | Whaley Bridge | SK23 7LP | 01663  733861  01614  807423 | 09:30-17:30 | 09:00-17:30 | 09:30-12:30 | 09:30-17:30 | | 09:00-17:30 | 09:00-12:30 | Closed |
| Morans Opticians | 28 Market Street | New Mills | SK22 4AE | 01663  742338 | 09:00-17:30 | 09:00-18:00 | 09:00-16:30 | 09:00-18:00 | | 09:00-17:30 | 09:00-12:30 | Closed |
| **Mid Derbyshire** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |
| Ashbourne Specsavers | 3 Victoria Square, Market Place | Ashbourne | DE6 1GG | 01335  348538 | 08:30-17:00 | 08:30-17:00 | 08:30-17:00 | 08:30-17:00 | | 08:30-17:00 | 08:30-17:00 | Closed |
| B&B Opticians (Somercotes) | 125 Nottingham Road | Somercotes | DE55 4JH | 01773  609411 | 09:00-17:00 | 09:00-17:00 | 09:00-17:00 | 09:00-17:00 | | 09:00-17:00 | 09:00-16:00 | Closed |
| Belper Specsavers | 46-48 King Street | Belper | DE56 1PL | 01773  824375 | 08:30-17:30 | 08:30-17:30 | 08:30-17:30 | 09:00-18:30 | | 08:30-17:30 | 09:00-17:00 | 10:00-16:00 |
| Ripley Specsavers | 22 Oxford Street | Ripley | DE5 3AL | 01773  741515 | 08:30-17:30 | 08:30-17:30 | 08:30-17:30 | 08:30-17:30 | | 08:30-17:30 | 09:00-17:00 | 10:00-16:00 |
| Hurst Opticians | 5-7 High Street | Ripley | DE5 3AB | 01773  744333 | 09:00-17:30 | 09:00-17:30 | 09:00-17:30 | 09:00-17:30 | | 09:00-17:30 | 09:00-16:30 | Closed |
| Sutton Specsavers | Idlewells Shopping Centre | Sutton-in-Ashfield | NG17 1BP | 01623  552456 | 08:30-18:00 | 08:30-18:00 | 08:30-18:00 | 10:00-18:00 | | 08:30-18:00 | 09:00-17:00 | 10:00-16:00 |
| Stanley H Field | 19 Church Street | Alfreton | DE55 7AH | 01773  832091 | 09:00-17:00 | 09:00-17:00 | 09:00-17:00 | 09:00-17:00 | | 09:00-17:00 | 09:00-12:00 | Closed |
| DI Blow | 115 High Street | Alfreton | DE55 7DP | 01773  836661 | 09:00-17:00 | 09:00-17:00 | 09:00-17:00 | 09:00-17:00 | | 09:00-17:00 | 09:00-16:00 | Closed |
| Sumpton Opticians | 108 Bath Street | Ilkeston | DE7 8FE | 01159  322653 | 09:00-17:00 | 09:00-17:00 | 09:00-17:00 | 09:00-17:00 | | 09:00-17:30 | 09:00-12:30 | Closed |
| Ilkeston Specsavers | 104 Bath Street | Ilkeston | DE7 8FE | 01159  441401 | 09:00-17:30 | 09:00-19:00 | 09:00-17:30 | 09:00-19:00 | | 09:00-17:30 | 09:00-17:00 | 10:00-16:00 |
| Eastwood Specsavers | 99 Nottingham Road | Eastwood | NG16 3AJ | 01773  535777 | 09:00-17:30 | 09:00-17:30 | 09:00-17:30 | 09:00-19:00 | | 09:00-17:30 | 09:00-17:00 | 10:00-16:00 |
| Long Eaton Specsavers | 4-6 High Street | Long Eaton | NG10 1LN | 01159  460450 | 09:00-19:00 | 09:00-17:30 | 09:00-19:00 | 09:00-17:30 | | 09:00-17:30 | 09:00-17:00 | 10:00-16:00 |
| **South Derbyshire** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |
| Adams Optician | Unit 16B, Sinfin District Centre | Sinfin, Derby | DE24 3DS | 01332  272400 | 09:00-17:30 | 09:00-17:30 | 09:00-17:30 | 09:00-17:30 | | 09:00-17:00 | 09:00-17:00 | Closed |
| Alvaston Opticians | 1260 London Road | Alvaston, Derby | DE24 8QP | 01332  571642 | 09:00-17:30 | 09:00-17:30 | 09:00-17:30 | 09:00-17:30 | | 09:30-17:30 | 09:00-15:00 | Closed |
| Borrowash Opticians | 17 Derby Road | Borrowash, Derby | DE72 3JW | 01332  701944 | 09:00-17:00 | 09:00-17:00 | 09:00-17:00 | 09:00-17:00 | | 09:00-17:00 | 09:00-13:00 | Closed |
| Chellaston Opticians | 17 Derby Road | Chellaston, Derby | DE73 5SA | 01332  701944 | 09:00-17:00 | 09:00-17:00 | 09:00-17:00 | 09:00-17:00 | | 09:00-17:00 | 09:00-13:00 | Closed |
| David Elks Opticians | 12 Midland Road | Swadlincote | DE11 0AG | 01283  216284 | 09:00-17:00 | 09:00-17:00 | 09:00-12:30 | 09:00-17:00 | | 09:00-17:00 | 09:00-12:00 | Closed |
| Derby Specsavers | 22 Crown Walk, West Mall Intu Centre | Derby | DE1 2NP | 01332  294939 | 08:45-18:00 | 08:45-18:00 | 08:45-18:00 | 08:45-18:00 | | 08:45-18:00 | 08:30-18:00 | 10:00-16:30 |
| Grimley & Glynn Opticians | 15 West Street | Swadlincote | DE11 9DG | 012832  22535 | 09:00-17:00 | 09:00-17:00 | 09:00-17:00 | 09:00-17:00 | | 09:00-17:00 | 09:00-16:00 | Closed |
| Normanton Specsavers | 10-12 Stenson Road, The Cavendish | Normanton, Derby | DE23 1JA | 01332  771555 | 09:00-17:30 | 08:30-17:30 | 08:30-17:30 | 08:30-17:30 | | 08:30-17:30 | 09:00-17:30 | 10:00-15:45 |
| Ultimate Spex | 293 Normanton Road | Normanton, Derby | DE23 6UU | 01332  294599 | 09:30-17:00 | 09:30-17:00 | 09:30-17:00 | 09:30-17:00 | | 09:30-17:00 | 09:30-17:00 | Closed |
| Oakwood Eyecare | Oakwood District Centre | Oakwood, Derby | DE21 2HT | 01332  676433 | 09:00-17:30 | 09:00-20:00 | 09:00-17:30 | 09:00-20:00 | | 09:00-17:30 | 08:00-16:00 | Closed |
| Oakwood Specsavers | Unit 4, Oakwood District Centre | Oakwood, Derby | DE21 2HT | 01332  668553 | 09:00-17:30 | 09:00-17:30 | 09:00-17:30 | 09:00-17:30 | | 09:00-17:30 | 09:00-17:30 | 10:00-16:00 |

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