

As most of the above tests involve large amounts of intense light, please be aware that you will experience a certain degree of temporary visual loss, but this will disappear rapidly once the photographs have been completed. However, your vision may still appear blurry due to the dilating drops.

Please let us know if you feel uncomfortable at any point during the tests. We can usually reduce the light levels or adjust the equipment to suit you better. If you require any further information or have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the Media Studio.

Other factsheets available include:

- Medical/clinical photography
- Room bookings
- PowerPoint presentations and posters
- Video production
- Video services
- Business card printing
- Sprinters – printing services

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Factsheet

Ophthalmic Photography

Information for patients



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What is Ophthalmic Photography?

Ophthalmic Photography is a specialist service within the Media Studio. We provide clinical photographs of any part of the eye. All our photographers are nationally registered and are fully qualified medical photographers. We also provide a photographic service for other hospitals in our region.

Where do I go for my photographs?

Ophthalmic Photography is located within Clinic 3 (Eye Clinic), in the Outpatients Department, on Level 3. You may also be asked to have external photographs of your face or eyes. This will take place in our main Photography Studio, which is on the same level, next to the Pain Clinic and near Clinic 7.

Why are photographs being taken of my eyes?

The photographs will be used to document the condition of your eyes and may also be used to diagnose any new problems. Sometimes the photographs will be used for medical teaching purposes, or occasionally to illustrate text books and journals. We will always ask you for your consent before the photographs are used for any of the above purposes.

Who will look at the photographs?

The doctor who requested the photographs will normally review them on the day of your appointment and discuss the results with you before you leave the clinic. If you have given your consent, the photographs may be used for medical teaching purposes. All images will be stored on the central Addenbrooke's server and are therefore protected by the hospital's firewall security.

What happens when I arrive at the Eye Clinic?

Once you have registered with the clinic reception, your paperwork will be given to the nursing staff so that they can check your vision and dilate your pupils. The dilating drops enlarge the size of your pupils so that we can assess and photograph the back of your eyes. Your vision will become blurry and this effect can last for several hours after your appointment. *It is advisable not to drive for several hours after these drops.*

You will be asked to wait 20–30 minutes whilst the drops take effect. After this you will be called by either the doctor or a photographer, who will explain the tests to you in greater detail. Before we take any photographs we will ask you to sign a consent form which allows the photos to be used for a particular purpose e.g. teaching of other medical staff, diagnosis

of your condition, or for use in medical and ophthalmic publications.

What kind of tests will I have?

Listed below are the main methods we use to photograph the eye:

Colour photographs – to document any changes on the back surface of your eye (retina).

Optical Coherence Tomography (OCT) – OCT produces a sequence of images that show a cross section of the retina to highlight any abnormalities and areas of disease.

Fluorescein Angiography – photography of the retina, involving an injection of fluorescent yellow dye into a vein in your arm, which gives a detailed view of the eye circulation system.

Indocyanine Green – another dye test which allows us to see through the retinal layer into the blood circulation system beneath.

Slit Lamp Photography – detailed photography of the structures at the front of the eye – eg. to show cataract formation and corneal problems.

External Clinical Photography – standardised photography of the face and areas around the eyes, to demonstrate external injuries, eye movement problems, skin changes, etc.