

## **Patient Information Factsheet**

### **Pre-operative Assessment in Ophthalmology**

Before you undergo surgery you will have a pre-operative assessment with an ophthalmology nurse. The purpose of the pre-operative assessment is to ensure you are as fit as possible to have the operation and minimise any risks to your health.

The assessment will take place either by attending for a pre-assessment appointment at the Lister Treatment Centre or by a telephone pre-assessment.

#### **Face to Face Assessments**

These take place on Level 3 at the Lister Treatment Centre and take approximately one hour to complete.

This assessment may take place on the same day as your first appointment with the consultant or may take place a few weeks before your operation. You will be told at your first appointment if you have to make a further visit for assessment.

When attending the pre-assessment please bring with you:

- Your GP's surgery address and telephone number
- Name and telephone number of your next of kin
- Your repeat prescription from your GP and/or your current medications including eye drops, inhalers, creams, injections
- Allergy information
- Details of previous investigations/operations
- Your glasses and/or contact lenses and latest optician prescription
- Any previous letters regarding Lasik surgery with details of the surgery that was completed
- Any questions you may have

The medical assessment will be carried out by an ophthalmology nurse. The assessment appointment will include checks on your general health, blood pressure, pulse and blood sugar.

At the pre-assessment the nurse may decide you need to see an anaesthetist. If possible an anaesthetist will see you on the day. However, if the anaesthetist is not available you will be given an appointment date and time to attend.

## **Biometry**

Biometry is the measurement of your eye to decide which lens you will need to have inserted during your operation. The measurements include the strength and size of the lens you need. Biometry may be done at the same time as your pre-operative assessment. Biometry will be done by a nurse who is skilled in taking the necessary measurements. You should bring someone with you to this appointment if possible, particularly if they will be helping you after your operation.

## **Contact Lens Wearer**

It is important you leave your contact lenses (soft or gas permeable) out of both eyes for two weeks before the biometry measurement is taken at the pre-assessment appointment.

## **Telephone Assessments**

You will be given an appointment stating the time and date of your telephone pre-assessment. The appointment should take approximately 15 minutes. The nurse will ask you your name and date of birth as a check of your identity.

Please have the same list of information ready as detailed above under 'Face to Face Assessment'.

At the pre-assessment the nurse will give you information about your forthcoming operation and answer any questions you may have.

## **Contact details:**

The Lister Treatment Centre  
Lister Hospital  
Coreys Mill Lane  
Stevenage  
Hertfordshire SG1 4AB

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Date of publication: August 2014  
Author: Treatment Centre  
Reference Number: v3 (October 2017)  
Review Date: October 2017  
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