

ABOUT THE SCHEME

The Minor Eye Conditions Scheme (MECS) allows patients registered with GPs in Lambeth and Lewisham to access NHS treatment for a range of medical eye conditions. Instead of having to visit hospital for treatment, patients can now be seen by a highly trained optometrist based in a local optician's practice. The aim of the scheme is to allow patients to access treatment quickly, near to where they live and work.

This service offers clinical assessment and treatment for medical eye conditions only – it does not provide a standard eye examination or prescription for glasses.

Appointments are often available within two days and many of the practices offer appointments at weekends. All of the opticians listed on the next page are able to see and treat patients for a range of conditions such as:

- Red eye
- Sticky eye (difficulty opening your eye or yellow discharge)
- Watery eye (excessive tears)
- Pain or discomfort in or around the eyes
- Recent onset or sudden increase of flashes of light or floating objects in your vision

If you are unsure whether your eye problem requires medical attention, please call one of the practices on the next page who will be happy to advise you.

Please note if you are suffering from significant pain, a sudden loss of vision in one or both eyes, chemical burns or a penetrating injury then you should go directly to the Eye Casualty department at St Thomas' Hospital or your nearest A&E.

WHERE CAN I BE SEEN?

Below is a list of all participating optometrists in Lambeth:

| Area | Practice | Address | Telephone |
|--------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------|
| Brixton | Banks Optometrists | 8 Acre Lane SW2 5SG | 020 7274 4414 |
| Brixton | Medirex Opticians | 60a Brixton Road SW9 6BS | 020 7735 5309 |
| Oval | Oval Eyes Opticians | 8 Clapham Road SW9 0JG | 020 7820 0935 |
| Streatham | Boots Opticians | 6 Astoria Parade SW16 1PR | 020 8769 1030 |
| Vauxhall | Medirex Opticians | 28-29 Wilcox Close SW8 2UD | 020 7622 1893 |
| Waterloo | Opticalise | 33 Lower Marsh SE1 7RG | 020 7633 0680 |
| West Norwood | London Eye Care Centre | 30 Knights Hill SE27 0HY | 020 8670 1845 |
| West Norwood | R Woodfall Opticians | 286 Norwood Road SE27 9AF | 020 8670 4100 |

- 1. Contact your preferred optometrist for an appointment. MECS is not a walk-in service, but most patients will receive an appointment within 2 days.**
- 2. Bring your glasses / contact lenses and contact lens case, and a list of any medications you are taking with you to your appointment.**
- 3. If you are not able to attend, please contact the optometrist to cancel or reschedule your appointment.**

For more information and an up-to-date list of participating optometrists across Lambeth and Lewisham, please visit:

www.lslloc.org

then click on Minor Eye Conditions Service for the interactive map of participating optometrists.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN I SEE THE OPTOMETRIST?

The optometrist will discuss your recent eye history, any symptoms you may be experiencing and any related medical history. As a result of the consultation you may be given appropriate treatment by the optometrists, referred to your GP if the condition is related to your general health, or referred directly to the hospital eye service if your eye condition is more serious.

Following your appointment the optometrist will notify your GP about the outcome of your consultation in order to ensure your medical records are updated. Please note, information about you will be collected such as ethnic origin, age and type of eye problem. You cannot be identified by this data. The data will only be used for clinical review, commissioning and research purposes. Should you wish to opt out please discuss this with your optometrist.

Although you can access the Minor Eye Conditions Scheme without a referral, if your doctor has recommended that you visit an Optometrist they may wish to enter in some information below.

FOR REFERRER USE ONLY

Patient Name: _____

D.O.B: _____

Reason for Referral: _____

Have you previously administered any treatment for this condition?

Yes No

If yes, please give details - _____

Referrer Name: _____

GP Practice name and address: _____

Patient NHS Number: _____

Date: _____

MINOR EYE CONDITIONS SCHEME

A NEW SERVICE AT YOUR LOCAL OPTICIANS PROVIDES FREE ASSESSMENT FOR MANY COMMON EYE CONDITIONS

