

Eye referrals to Royal Bournemouth and Christchurch Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (RBCH)

Routine referrals: Routine HES referrals are normally sent via the patient's GP.

Patients with a Dorset GP: you can refer appropriate conditions to "evolutio" directly or the patient's GP may use this service unless you specify that your patient is choosing to be seen at Bournemouth Eye Unit (or other hospital eye department of their choice).

- evolutio service in Dorset: <https://www.evolutio-uk.com/dorset-ccg/>
- 'Patient choice' <https://www.england.nhs.uk/patient-choice/>

Urgent referrals:

If your patient needs to be seen urgently, Bournemouth's Eye Emergency Department can be phoned for advice. Patients are accepted by this clinic if they meet Bournemouth's triage criteria and their symptoms are of less than two weeks in duration. If the Eye Emergency Department does not accept your patient, RBCH request that the urgent referral is sent via the patient's GP.

If your patient has a West Hampshire GP and has an urgent eye condition relating to treatment received elsewhere (e.g. a post-cataract concern), Bournemouth Eye Emergency Department will direct you to contact the patient's surgical provider.

Patients with a West Hampshire (or Southampton) GP: Occasionally an eye condition may be suitable for MECS (Minor Eye Condition Service). Please arrange an appointment for your patient by telephoning a participating optician practice (inclusion & exclusion criteria at end of page 2).

Practices offering MECS: <https://primaryeyecare.co.uk>

(Wiltshire MECS practices are not currently able to assess Hampshire patients)

CRVO / BRVO

Urgent referral to eye outpatient department via GP

Wet AMD

Email: eye.unit@nhs.net

Macular Coordinator: 01202 726117 (answerphone available)

The postal address for Wet AMD referrals is:

AMD fast-track
The Eye Unit
Royal Bournemouth Hospital
Castle Lane East, Bournemouth, BH7 7DW

Eye Emergency Department

Telephone: 01202 704181

Opening times:

Weekdays: 8.00 – 18.00

Saturday (& bank holidays): 8.30 – 18.00

Sundays: 8.30 – 14.00

Patients with emergency conditions after 6pm should go to the main Emergency Department (on-call ophthalmic support is provided 24hrs a day) or you may prefer to telephone Southampton's Eye Emergency for advice: 023 81 20 6592

Additional information:

Eye outpatient (appointment) enquiries: 01202 704740

Bournemouth Eye Unit has a Contact Lens Service.

Bournemouth Eye Unit does not have a Low Vision (magnifier) Service. Please see the Dorset LOC website regarding referral to the community LVA service <https://dorsetloc.org/enhanced-services-visual-impairment>

Eye Clinic Liaison Officer (ECLO): Wendy Wade

Email: wendy.wade@rnib.org.uk

Phone: 07763 572 758

Please remember that email referrals need to be sent by a secure NHS.net email account

MECS inclusion Criteria: Please note, not all of the inclusion criteria below will be appropriate for referral to MECS if a patient has just completed an examination with an Optometrist or CLO

- Loss of vision including transient loss
- Ocular pain [L] [SEP]
- Differential diagnosis of red eye [L] [SEP]
- Foreign body and emergency contact lens removal (not by the fitting practitioner) [L] [SEP]
- Dry eye [L] [SEP] * Blepharitis [L] [SEP] * Epiphora [L] [SEP]
- Trichiasis [L] [SEP]
- Differential diagnosis of lumps and bumps in the vicinity of the eye [L] [SEP]
- Flashes/floaters – recent onset [L] [SEP]
- Patient reported sudden onset field defects.

Exclusion Criteria [L] [SEP] the following cases will not be treated by the service: [L] [SEP]

- Patients identified to have severe eye conditions which need hospital attention e.g. orbital cellulitis, temporal arteritis.
- Eye problems related to herpes zoster. [L] [SEP]
- Adult squints, long standing diplopia. [L] [SEP]
- Removal of suture. [L] [SEP]
- Patient's reported symptoms indicate that a sight test is more appropriate than this service. [L] [SEP]
- Repeat field tests to aid diagnosis following an eye examination. [L] [SEP]
- Suspected cancers of the eye. [L] [SEP]
- Dry Age related macular degeneration. [L] [SEP]