



# **A Guide to Choice and Booking in Cataracts**

**Revised November 2014**

## **Introduction**

For some years the NHS has offered choice about which hospital you attend for most types of treatment.

Usually your Optometrist would have given you this leaflet because they felt you may benefit from cataract surgery. You now have an opportunity to think about this and discuss it with your family, friends or carers and decide if you want to go ahead.

If you decide you want to go ahead, you have a choice about where you attend for treatment for cataract surgery. The NHS will pay for your treatment at all the hospitals listed below.

## **Which Hospitals can my optometrist refer me to?**

Your Optometrist can refer you to the following hospitals:

Birmingham and Midland Eye Centre (City Hospital)	Queen Elizabeth
Birmingham Children's Hospital (children only)	<b>Russells Hall</b>
Good Hope	Sandwell
Heartlands	Solihull
Kidderminster	<b>West Midlands Hospital (Halesowen)*</b>
Midland Eye Institute*	Westbourne Centre (Edgbaston)*
Nuffield Wolverhampton*	Wolverhampton (New Cross)
Optegra Birmingham*	Worcestershire Royal Hospital

\*private hospital which the NHS will pay for treatment at

You can also have your appointments before and after your operation at Rowley Regis Hospital, but for this the operation itself would need to be at either Sandwell or the Birmingham and Midland Eye Centre (City Hospital).

## **What if the hospital I want to attend is not on the list?**

It may be possible for your optometrist to obtain the information needed to refer you to that hospital directly, but it is more likely that the optometrist will need to refer you to your GP who can arrange this for you if possible.

## Am I guaranteed to be able to go to the hospital of my choice?

In the vast majority of cases you will be able to have your cataract operation at the hospital you choose. Occasionally it may be necessary for you to be seen elsewhere, but the reasons for this should be discussed with you first.

## What if I want to be referred privately?

Please inform your optometrist. They will either refer you directly or via your GP depending on circumstances.

There are some private providers listed above that the NHS will pay for you to receive treatment at, however the full range of options that a you would receive privately (for example multifocal implants) will not be offered. Instead you will receive treatment equivalent to that which you would receive at an NHS hospital.

## Am I guaranteed to be offered surgery?

You will receive an appointment for a pre-operation assessment where the eye specialist will examine your eyes and discuss your case. The surgeon will also discuss the risks and benefits of surgery. The surgeon will then make a recommendation to you about whether they think surgery is the best course of action, and there will be an opportunity to discuss together whether to proceed. If the decision is made to proceed, a date will be set for the operation.

## How long should it be before I hear from the hospital?

You should be contacted by the hospital in the timescale indicated in the table below:

NAME OF HOSPITAL	Time for letter	TELEPHONE
Birmingham and Midland Eye Centre (City Hospital)	6 weeks	0121 507 4151
Birmingham Children's Hospital	4 weeks	0121 333 9461
Good Hope	6 weeks	0121 424 0801
Heartlands	6 weeks	0121 424 0801
Kidderminster	6 weeks	01562 513070
Midland Eye Institute(Solihull)*	4 weeks	0121 705 5995
Nuffield Wolverhampton*	4 weeks	0800 015 5020
Optegra Birmingham*	4 weeks	0121 204 3800
Queen Elizabeth	6 weeks	0121 627 8890
<b>Russells Hall</b>	14 days	<b>0845 1550054</b>
Sandwell	6 weeks	0121 507 3236
Solihull	6 weeks	0121 424 0801
<b>West Midlands Hospital (Halesowen)*</b>	14 days	<b>01384 632632</b>
Westbourne Centre (Edgbaston)*	4 weeks	0121 456 0880
Wolverhampton (New Cross)	4 weeks	01902 695800
Worcestershire Royal Hospital	6 weeks	01905 760422

If you have not heard anything, and the timescale in the table has passed, please phone the telephone number for the hospital in the table above and they should be able to help you further.

### **What if the appointment time/date given is not suitable?**

The appointment letter you receive should have contact details on it. Please phone the hospital directly and arrange a more convenient appointment. If you do not do this, and you miss the appointment given, you may be discharged and need to be referred again.

### **I do not want to go ahead with referral for cataract surgery.**

It is your absolute right to refuse to be referred. We strongly recommend you contact the optometrist/opticians who saw you so they can make a note on your record and inform your GP to ensure your wishes are respected.

### **I want to go ahead and I know where I want to go.**

If you have not already done so, contact the optometrist/optician you saw and arrange a time to complete the remaining paperwork. If you have been given a form to complete with details of your medication please make sure you take that along with you when you go. The optometrist will then fax the referral to your choice of hospital and inform your GP.

## **Hospitals**

The following are some brief key details about the hospitals that your optometrist can refer you to. There may be further information sheets available for some of these.

Further up to date details for bus services to NHS hospitals in the West Midlands can be found at [nxbus.co.uk/west-midlands/links/hospitals](http://nxbus.co.uk/west-midlands/links/hospitals). Alternatively call Network West Midlands on 0871 200 2233 or visit [www.networkwestmidlands.com](http://www.networkwestmidlands.com)

<b>Birmingham and Midland Eye Centre (City Hospital)</b>	
Trust Website: <a href="http://www.swbh.nhs.uk">www.swbh.nhs.uk</a>	Eye Department website: <a href="http://bmec.swbh.nhs.uk">bmec.swbh.nhs.uk</a>
Address: City Hospital, Dudley Rd, Birmingham B18 7QH	Phone: 0121 554 3801
Buses: 11A, 11C, 82, 83, 87, 89 stop outside hospital main gates on Dudley Road. Bus service 80 stops at junction of Dudley Road and Icknield Port Road	
Parking: Available onsite. There is charge for this. As of November 2014: 15 mins - FREE 1 hour - £2.60 2 hours - £3.60 3 hours - £4.10 5 hours - £4.60 24 hours - £5.10	

<b>Birmingham Children's Hospital (children only)</b>	
Trust Website: <a href="http://www.bch.nhs.uk">www.bch.nhs.uk</a>	
Address: Steelhouse Lane, Birmingham, B4 6NH	Phone: 0121 333 9999
Train: Birmingham Snow Hill - 5 minutes walk, •Birmingham Moor Street - 10 minutes walk, Birmingham New Street - 15 minutes walk. The Midland Metro also serves Snow Hill	
Buses: All bus services to Birmingham City Centre	
Parking: There is charge for this. Please see the trust website for details.	

**Good Hope**Trust Website: [www.heartofengland.nhs.uk](http://www.heartofengland.nhs.uk)Eye Department website: [www.heartofengland.nhs.uk/opthamology/](http://www.heartofengland.nhs.uk/opthamology/)

Address: Rectory Rd, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands B75 7RR

Phone: 0121 424 2000

Buses: 71, 71A, 115, 904, 914

Parking: Available onsite. There is charge for this. As of November 2014:

30 mins - Free 1 hour - £2.75 2 hours - £3.75 4 hours - £4.75 24 hours -£5.75

**Heartlands**Trust Website: [www.heartofengland.nhs.uk](http://www.heartofengland.nhs.uk)Eye Department website: [www.heartofengland.nhs.uk/opthamology/](http://www.heartofengland.nhs.uk/opthamology/)

Address: Bordesley Green E, Birmingham, West Midlands B9 5SS

Phone: 0121 424 2000

Buses: 28, 97, 97A stop on Bordesley Green East, 73 stops on Yardley Green Road

Parking: Available onsite. There is charge for this. As of November 2014:

30 mins – Free 1 hour – £2.75 2 hours – £3.75 4 hours – £4.75 24 hours – £5.75

**Kidderminster**Trust Website: [www.worcsacute.nhs.uk](http://www.worcsacute.nhs.uk)Hospital Website: [www.worcsacute.nhs.uk/our-hospitals/kidderminster-hospital-treatment-centre](http://www.worcsacute.nhs.uk/our-hospitals/kidderminster-hospital-treatment-centre)

Address: Bewdley Rd, Kidderminster, Worcestershire DY11 6RJ

Phone: 01562 823424

Buses as of Nov 2014: X3, 1, 2, 2A / 2C, 2L / 2S, 3, 12, 291 and 302. Please see hospital website.

Parking: Available onsite. There is charge for this. As of November 2014:

2 hours: £3.00 2-4 hours: £4.50 4-6 hours: £6 6-24 hours: £7.50

**Midland Eye Institute** (Private Hospital, the NHS will pay for your treatment)Hospital Website: [www.midlandeye.com](http://www.midlandeye.com)

Address: 50 Lode Lane, Solihull, West Midlands, B91 2AW

Phone: 0121 711 2020

Buses: S10, 71, 70, 957, 966

Parking: Small Car Park. 1hr parking on road. Solihull hospital nearby (see hospital details for fees)

**Nuffield Wolverhampton** (Private Hospital, the NHS will pay for your treatment)Hospital Website: [www.nuffieldhealth.com/hospitals/wolverhampton](http://www.nuffieldhealth.com/hospitals/wolverhampton)

Address: Wood Road, Tettenhall, Wolverhampton, West Midlands WV6 8LE

Phone: 01902 212238

Buses: 62A, (62 with short walk)

Parking: Free parking on site

<b>Optegra Birmingham</b> (Private Hospital, the NHS will pay for your treatment)	
Hospital Website: <a href="http://www.optegra.com/our-hospital/birmingham">http://www.optegra.com/our-hospital/birmingham</a>	
Address: Aston University Campus, Coleshill Street, Birmingham B4 7ET	
Phone: 0808 115 6181 or 0121 204 3800	
Buses: details at <a href="http://www.networkwestmidlands.com">www.networkwestmidlands.com</a> or phone 0871 200 2233	
Train: Birmingham Snow Hill - 7 minutes walk, Birmingham Moor Street - 12 minutes walk, Birmingham New Street - 15 minutes walk. The Midland Metro also serves Snow Hill	
Parking: Free parking is available on the hospital forecourt	

<b>Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Birmingham</b>	
Trust Website: <a href="http://www.uhb.nhs.uk">www.uhb.nhs.uk</a>	
Eye Department website: <a href="http://www.uhb.nhs.uk/ophthalmology-clinics.htm">www.uhb.nhs.uk/ophthalmology-clinics.htm</a>	
Address: Queen Elizabeth Medical Centre, Birmingham B15 2TH	Phone: 0121 627 2000
Buses: 11A & 11C, 76, 84, 48, 98, and 99	
Train: University station is less than 10 minutes' walk from the hospital.	
Parking: Available onsite. There is charge for this. As of November 2014:	
1 hr-£2.70 3 hrs -£4.10 4 hrs -£4.80 5 hrs -£5.50 6 hrs -£6.10 8 hrs -£6.80 Over 8 hrs -£13.60	

<b>Russells Hall</b>	
Trust Website: <a href="http://dudleygroup.nhs.uk">dudleygroup.nhs.uk</a>	
Eye Department website: <a href="http://dudleygroup.nhs.uk/services-and-wards/ophthalmology/">dudleygroup.nhs.uk/services-and-wards/ophthalmology/</a>	
Address: Pensnett Road, Dudley, West Midlands, DY1 2HQ	Phone: 01384 456111
Buses: 205, 222 (New Link Road, East side), 205, 222, 246, 297 (Holly Hall Bus Mall, Hospital site)	
Parking: Available onsite. There is charge for this. As of November 2014:	
15 mins – free 30 mins - £1.00 1hr - £2.00 1½hr - £3.00 3hrs - £4.00 24hrs - £5.50	

<b>Sandwell</b>	
Trust Website: <a href="http://www.swbh.nhs.uk">www.swbh.nhs.uk</a>	
Address: Lyndon, West Bromwich, West Midlands B71 4HJ	Phone: 0121 553 1831
Buses: 45, 46 stop on Hallam Street. 4, 4H, 4M, 5, 40, stop on All Saints Way	
Parking: Available onsite. There is charge for this. As of November 2014:	
15 mins - FREE 1 hour - £2.60 2 hours - £3.60 3 hours - £4.10 5 hours - £4.60 24 hours - £5.10	

<b>Solihull</b>	
Trust Website: <a href="http://www.heartofengland.nhs.uk">www.heartofengland.nhs.uk</a>	
Eye Department website: <a href="http://www.heartofengland.nhs.uk/opthamology/">www.heartofengland.nhs.uk/opthamology/</a>	
Address: Lode Lane, Solihull B91 2JL	Phone: 0121 424 2000
Buses: 58, 71, 72, 73, 957, 966, S1	
Parking: Available onsite. There is charge for this. As of November 2014:	
30 mins - Free 1 hour - £2.75 2 hours - £3.75 4 hours - £4.75 24 hours -£5.75	

<b>West Midlands Hospital</b> (Private Hospital, the NHS will pay for your treatment)	
Hospital Website: <a href="http://www.westmidlandshospital.co.uk">www.westmidlandshospital.co.uk</a>	
Address: Colman Hill, Halesowen, West Midlands B63 2AH	Phone: 01384 560123
Buses: 240	
Parking: Free car parking onsite	

<b>Westbourne Centre</b> (Private Hospital, the NHS will pay for your treatment)	
Hospital Website: <a href="http://www.westbournecentre.com">www.westbournecentre.com</a>	
Address: 53 Church Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham, B15 3SJ	Phone: 0121 456 0880
Bus nos.: 1. Nearby: 10H, 23,29,24,22,29A	
Parking: Free car parking onsite	

<b>Wolverhampton (New Cross)</b>	
Trust Website: <a href="http://www.royalwolverhamptonhospitals.nhs.uk">www.royalwolverhamptonhospitals.nhs.uk</a>	
Address: Wednesfield Road, Heath Road, Wolverhampton, West Midlands WV10 0QP	
Phone: 01902 307999	
Buses: 28 serves the Hospital Grounds, 25, 28, 59, 69 & 89 stop nearby on Wolverhampton Road	
Parking: Available onsite. There is charge for this. As of November 2014: 15 mins - Free   1 hour - £2.30   3 hours - £3.30   5 hours - £4.30   24 hours - £5.30	

<b>Worcestershire Royal Hospital</b>	
Trust Website: <a href="http://www.worcsacute.nhs.uk/">http://www.worcsacute.nhs.uk/</a>	
Hospital website: <a href="http://www.worcsacute.nhs.uk/our-hospitals/worcestershire-royal-hospital/">www.worcsacute.nhs.uk/our-hospitals/worcestershire-royal-hospital/</a>	
Address: Charles Hastings Way, Worcester WR5 1DD	Phone: 01905 763333
Buses: 31 / 31E, 31A / 31C, 31B, 32A, 356, W3	
Parking: Available onsite. There is charge for this. As of November 2014: 2 hours: £3.00   4 hours: £4.50   6 hours: £6   24 hours: £7.50	