Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol Aneurin Bevan University Health Board

Glaucoma Data Collection Clinic

Information for Patients

Royal Gwent Hospital
Glaucoma Service

What is the glaucoma data collection clinic (GDCC)?

The glaucoma data collection clinic is staffed by non-medical staff trained to carry out the tests and investigations that you would have in a face-to-face glaucoma visit. A glaucoma specialist then reviews the results of all of your tests, makes a decision about how best to manage your condition, and will write you to keep you informed of your results.

What patients are suitable for a glaucoma data collection clinic?

Patients ideally suited for the data collection clinic are those whose glaucoma is stable or at lower risk of progressing. If your condition changes and you require more frequent review, you will be given an appointment to clinic to see the doctor, optometrist, or nurse. If urgent or immediate concerns are identified then you will be reviewed by a doctor on the same day.

Planning your visit to the GDCC

The appointment usually lasts 30 to 60 minutes. Before you arrive in clinic:

- Please complete the enclosed questionnaire about your vision, drops and general health and bring it with you on the day of appointment.
- You might have drops put in your eyes to dilate your pupils. The effect can last for a few hours and temporarily blur your vision. You should not drive during this time.
- If you wear contact lenses but also have distance glasses, please wear the glasses on the day you come to the GDCC. If you wear contact lenses but do

not have glasses, please wear the contact lenses but bring a contact lens case to put them in to allow a pressure check.

What happens during the clinic?

Following your arrival in clinic, you will have:

- Your vision checked by reading a letter chart.
- Your visual field (peripheral or side vision) checked with a visual field test.
- Your eye pressures measured.
- A photograph and computerised scan of the nerve at the back of the eye.
- Your results are then sent to a consultant ophthalmologist to be reviewed.

What are the benefits of the data collection clinic?

- This clinic uses available staff and space to ensure people are not given unnecessary appointments, kept waiting, and do not have their appointments cancelled.
- You could be discharged following this clinic or we might be able to discharge you sooner.
- Waiting times in the data collection clinic are much shorter
- All tests are performed in one visit to the hospital
- Every patient's results are reviewed by a glaucoma specialist to ensure the best management of glaucoma.

Further questions

If you have any concerns or question about your care, we advise you to talk with the nurse in charge or the department manager in the first instance.

If the relevant member of staff is unable to help resolve your concern, you can contact the Patient Services helpline. They are able to liaise with departments in hospital on your behalf, if you are unable to do so.

How to contact Patient Services:

Telephone: 01633 838516