

Ophthalmology – Minor Eye Conditions

Introduction

If you have a recent problem with your eyes – such as sore eyes, red eyes or visual disturbance – you can be assessed and treated by our local Minor Eye Conditions Service. If you are registered with a St Helens or Halton GP you can use this free service. It is for people of all ages – adults and children. Children under 16 years must be accompanied at their appointment by an adult.

Conditions that can be seen under the service include:

- Red eye or eyelids
- Dry eye, or gritty and uncomfortable eyes
- Irritation and inflammation of the eye
- Significant recent sticky discharge from the eye or watery eye
- Recently occurring flashes or floaters
- Ingrowing eyelashes
- Recent and sudden loss of vision
- Foreign body in the eye

Also, if you have a major eye condition that is being regularly monitored by your optometrist or hospital eye service, this will not be covered by this service.

Guidance for Patients

A list of registered optometry practices (opticians) offering the service is available at <http://centralmerseyloc.org/minor-eye-care-services-mecs/>.

An appointment will normally be required, so telephone first. Appointments are available during normal working hours and some practices offer appointment at weekends. Not all practices have an optometrist available every day, but if they don't, they will be able to find you an alternative appointment nearby.

To make an appointment, call one of the opticians found via <http://centralmerseyloc.org/minor-eye-care-services-mecs/>. You will be asked some questions about your symptoms in order to assess how quickly you need to be seen by the service, which will be within 24 hours in urgent cases and within a few days for routine appointments.

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Please take your glasses and a list of your current medication with you to the appointment. The optometrist may put drops in your eyes to enlarge your pupils in order to get a better view inside your eyes. You should not drive until the effects of these drops have worn off, which may take a few hours. If your condition is more serious, the optometrist will refer you urgently to a hospital eye clinic. If you need a routine appointment with a hospital, the optometrist will organise this for you. You may also be advised to make an appointment with your GP if your eye condition is related to your general health.

Halton	Merton Beck Opticians	39 Widnes Road	Widnes	WA8 6AZ	0151 424 2141
Halton	P & A Morgan Opticians	2 Alcock Street	Runcorn	WA7 1NA	0192 857 2177
Halton	Specs2U	Unit 7, St. Michael's Close	Oldgate, Widnes	WA8 8TL	0151 420 0007
Halton	Specsavers	104 Bridge Walk	Runcorn Shopping Centre, Runcorn	WA7 2BY	0192 871 6200
Halton	Specsavers	47 Albert Road	Widnes	WA8 6JA	0151 495 3040
St Helens	Boots Opticians	La Grange Arcade	Church Street, St Helens	WA10 1BD	01744 751087
St Helens	Crompton & Gilmore Opticians	37 Market Street	Newton-Le-Willows	WA12 9BQ	01925 222 910
St Helens	Howards Opticians	47 Duke Street	St Helens	WA10 2JE	01744 24324
St Helens	I Care Opticians	128 Thatto Heath Road	St Helens	WA9 5PE	01744 811890
St Helens	Kay's Opticians	95 Church Street	St Helens	WA10 1AJ	01744 23672
St Helens	R D Wilkes	15 Dane Court	Rainhill	L35 4LU	0151 426 2214
St Helens	Ralph Carr Opticians	101 Church Street	St Helens	WA10 1AJ	01744 23955
St Helens	Roberts Opticians	31 Bridge Street	Newton-Le-Willows	WA12 9BE	01925 226 269
St Helens	Specsavers	2-4 Bridge Street	St Helens	WA10 1NW	01744 453665
St Helens	Total Eyecare	14 Bridge Street	Newton le Willows	WA12 9BA	01925 290757
St Helens	Vision Express	Le Grange Arcade	Church St, St Helens	WA10 1BN	01744 737993
Border practice	R Millican Opticians	29-31 Eccleston St	Prescot	L34 5QA	0151 426 6286
Border practice	Specsavers Opticians (Huyton)	Unit 4, The Forum Centre,	Huyton	L36 5RT	0151 481 0241
Border practice	Simply Eyes	10 Downall Green Rd	Bryn Wigan	WN4 0DH	01942 722711
Border	Simply Eyes	25 Heath Street	Golborne	WA3 3AD	01942 726061

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