

Travel arrangements

You will need to make your own travel arrangements unless you have a medical condition which entitles you to hospital transport.

If you are entitled to receive help with hospital transport and you have chosen an NHS hospital for your treatment, you should contact your GP surgery.

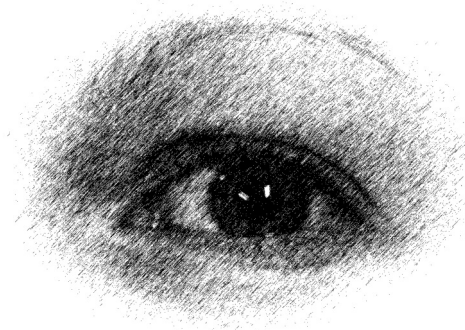
If you are entitled to receive help with hospital transport and you have chosen a private hospital (Eastern Surgery Limited at Nuffield or BMI), explain to your GP surgery that your treatment is being carried out on the NHS and so you still qualify for assistance with transport.

Language Line

A telephone interpreting service is available. If you require this service, please advise your Optometrist so that your request can be recorded on your referral.

If you have any concerns, please raise them at any time with your Optometrist or with the medical staff.

Cataract Surgery



A GUIDE TO YOUR CHOICE OF HOSPITAL

Your cataract treatment

Your Optometrist has examined your eyes and recommends that you may be suitable for cataract surgery. They will now refer you to a specialist to be assessed for cataract surgery.

You can choose which hospital you go to for your surgery. Your Optometrist will go through the options available to you. Whichever hospital you choose from the list below, your treatment is still free to you and paid for by the NHS.

The choices available are:

- **Ipswich Hospital NHS Trust**, Ipswich
- **West Suffolk Hospital NHS Trust**, Bury St Edmunds
- **Eastern Surgery Limited**, an independent healthcare company offering NHS cataract surgery at the Nuffield Hospital Ipswich and BMI Healthcare St Edmunds Hospital (formerly Nuffield Hospital Bury St Edmunds)
- **Cambridge University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust**, Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge
- **Colchester Hospital University NHS Foundation Trust**, Colchester
- **James Paget University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust**, Lowestoft
- **Norfolk and Norwich University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust**, Norwich

You may want to go to another hospital, not on this list. If you wish to do so, you should discuss this with your Optometrist first.

Your Optometrist will be able to tell you roughly how long you might have to wait for your surgery at each hospital.

After your Optometrist has discussed these options with you, and you have made your choice of hospital, they will ensure that your referral gets to the hospital that you have chosen.

The hospital will then contact you in due course with details of your appointment for assessment for cataract surgery. This can take several weeks. Your Optometrist can advise you on how long you might have to wait before you hear from the hospital about your appointment.

Once you have made your choice of hospital, you **DO NOT** need to ring anyone to make an appointment for your cataract treatment. You should wait for the hospital to contact you.

If you would like further information about cataract surgery or after-care, please contact your Optometrist at your Optician's practice.