

North East Essex - Glaucoma Repeat Reading (GRR)

Service Information

Overview

- The GRR service is commissioned by East Suffolk and North East Essex NHS Trust in conjunction with Essex LOC and Primary Eyecare Services for North East Essex GP patients only
- The service aims to reduce unnecessary referrals to the hospital eye service, reducing patient anxiety and increasing capacity within hospital glaucoma clinics
- Accredited optometrists will repeat diagnostic test to confirm the risk of disease and therefore improve referral accuracy.

Accreditation

- Core competencies.
- WOPEC Glaucoma level 1 is recommended

Service Specifications

- Patients identified as having an IOP >23mm/Hg with no other signs of glaucoma will be referred to a referral refinement practitioner.
- Self-referrals are permissible within the service, with repeat IOP readings being taken on the same day.
- All patients require IOP measurement by means of applanation tonometry (Goldman or Perkins), suprathreshold visual fields (except where a patient is unable to participate in the test), disc examination (including dilation if necessary) to record CD ratio.
- Patients should be seen within 30 days of referral into the GRR service. Onward referrals must be completed within 24 hours of assessment.

Following a GRR assessment:

- In accordance with local guidelines, all patients with an IOP ≥ 35 mmHg or exhibiting signs of Acute Angle Close Glaucoma must be referred immediately to the Hospital Eye Casualty via local emergency referral pathways.
- Patients with an IOP <24mmHg with normal visual fields and normal ONH are discharged with advice to continue with routine follow-up with their own optician.
- Patients with IOP ≥ 24 mmHg with or without visual field defect are referred to secondary care via OPERA.
- Patients with ONH changes suggestive of glaucoma (regardless of IOP) are referred to secondary care via OPERA

Help and Support

See the OPERA Help Section, contact us through the Blue Bubble or email hello@referral.support

For local clinical queries contact your Primary Eyecare Services Clinical Lead



Exclusions

- Patients with IOP ≥ 35 mmHg of showing signs suggestive of Acute Angle Closure Glaucoma at initial assessment
- Patients with IOP ≥ 24 mmHg and others signs suggestive of glaucoma (e.g. visual field defect, glaucomatous ONH damage) at initial assessment or other concurrent pathology.
- Under 18 years of age.
- Patients not registered with a North East Essex GP

