Independant Sector Providers April 2026

Hospital	NHS / Private	NHS POCS	Treatments	Average number of weeks from referral received to date of 1st appointment	Number of weeks from listing to surgery ONLY FOR NE ESSEX PATIENTS	Referral route All MSE patients MUST now be referred via Opera or to mse.eyecarehub@nhs.net	Extra Info - Patients with a GP in West Essex and Mid and South Essex now have minimum waits for cataract surgery. This applies to all providers, no matter where the surgery is undertaken.
WEST							From 1st October 2025 - Minimum wait of 12 weeks for cataract procedures
Ramsey Rivers Sawbridgeworth CM21 0HH	Both	YES	Cataract Yag	8 weeks 8 weeks	12 weeks 12 weeks	Patients can be referred direct to RiversNHSCo-ordinators@ramsayhealth.co.uk	Hydrophobic Acrylic Lens used in cataract surgery.
The Holly Buckhurst Hill IG9 5HX	Both	YES	Cataract Yag	1-2 weeks 1-2 weeks	7 weeks 7 weeks	Patients can be referred direct to HOBKH.Referral.management@nuffieldhealth.com	Plenty of onsite parking. For West Essex are unable to list any patient for TCI or Yag lazer under 9 weeks as per the ICB's instruction. Hydrophobic Acrylic Lens used in cataract surgery.
MSE							From 1st April 2026 - Minimum wait of 12 weeks for cataract procedures
Spa Medica Chelmsford CM1 1WZ	Both	YES	Cataract Yag WET AMD	1-2 weeks 4 weeks Maximum 14 days - Mid/South Essex pxs only	2 weeks*	Referrals for MSE patients MUST be via Opera portal or to mse.eyecarehub@nhs.net Non MSE referrals can be direct via email to spamedica.referrals@nhs.net	*for patients outside of Mid/South Essex & Herts/West Essex. Hydrophobic Acrylic Lens used in cataract surgery.
Spa Medica Romford RM1 1TR	NHS	YES	Cataract Yag WET AMD	2-4 weeks 6 weeks Maximum wait 14 days - Mid/South Essex pxs & Herts/West Essex pxs only	2-4 weeks*	Referrals for MSE patients MUST be via Opera portal or to mse.eyecarehub@nhs.net Non MSE referrals can be direct via email to spamedica.referrals@nhs.net	*for patients outside of Mid/South Essex & Herts/West Essex. Hydrophobic Acrylic Lens used in cataract surgery.
Southend Private Hospital Southend SS0 9AG	Both	YES	Cataracts YAG Ocular plastics Glaucoma Vitreoretinal/Macular/Retinal	2-3 weeks 2-3 weeks 2-3 weeks 2-3 weeks 2-3 weeks	14 weeks 14 weeks 14 weeks* 14 weeks* 14 weeks	Referrals for MSE patients MUST be via Opera portal or to mse.eyecarehub@nhs.net Non MSE referrals can be direct viavia email to Southend-NHSReferrals@circlehealthgroup.co.uk	* Glaucoma/Vitreoretinal/Macular: If surgery needed, within 14 week wait via cataract pathway. Hydrophobic Acrylic Lens used in cataract surgery.
ACES Eyeclinic Dartford DA2 6SL	Both	NO	Cataract YAG - 1 stop	2-3 weeks 14 weeks	14 weeks	Referrals for MSE patients MUST be via Opera portal or to mse.eyecarehub@nhs.net Non MSE referrals can be direct via email toaces.referrals1@nhs.net for support.	Hydrophobic Acrylic Lens used in cataract surgery.
ACES Eyeclinic Chelmsford CM1 1LN	Both	NO	Cataract YAG - 1 stop Glaucoma General Ophthalmology	2-3 weeks 12 weeks 6 weeks 12 weeks	12 weeks	Referrals for MSE patients MUST be via Opera portal or to mse.eyecarehub@nhs.net Non MSE referrals can be direct via email to aces.referrals1@nhs.net	Hydrophobic Acrylic Lens used in cataract surgery.

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NE ESSEX							No minimum waits for NE Essex patients
Ramsey Oaks Colchester CO4 5XR	Both	YES	Cataract	6-8 weeks	12 weeks	Non MSE patients can be referred direct to RHC.oaks@nhs.net	Both Hydrophobic and Hydrophilic Acrylic Lenses and used in cataract surgery.
Newmedica Ipswich IP2 0EE	Both	YES	Cataract YAG laser Oculoplastic (2 stop)	2 weeks 6 weeks (6 weeks MSE) 5+4 weeks (5+4 weeks MSE)	4 weeks (12 weeks MSE)	Non MSE patients can be referred direct to newmedica.referrals@nhs.net	If a px is referred for both eyes, they will be listed for their second eye, four weeks after their first eye. If a px is left anisometropic following first eye surgery they will be listed two weeks after their first eye. If a patient's eligible for free transport, Newmedica will arrange to pick up/drop off - add a note to the referral & ask the patient to mention free transport. Hydrophobic Acrylic Lens used in cataract surgery.
Newmedica Bury St Edmonds IP32 7AR	Both	YES	Cataract YAG laser Oculoplastic (2 stop)	2 weeks 6 weeks 5+4 weeks	4 weeks	Non MSE patients can be referred direct to newmedica.referrals@nhs.net	If a px is referred for both eyes, they will be listed for their second eye, four weeks after their first eye. If a px is left anisometropic following first eye surgery they will be listed two weeks after their first eye. If a patient's eligible for free transport, Newmedica will arrange to pick up/drop off - add a note to the referral & ask the patient to mention free transport. Hydrophobic Acrylic Lens used in cataract surgery.
Spa Medica Colchester CO4 9YQ	Both	YES	Cataract Yag WET AMD	1-2 weeks 4 weeks Maximum wait 14 days - Mid/South Essex pxs only	2 weeks*	Referrals for MSE patients MUST be via Opera portal or to mse.eyecarehub@nhs.net Non MSE referrals can be direct via email to spamedica.referrals@nhs.net	*for patients outside of Mid/South Essex & Herts/West Essex. Hydrophobic Acrylic Lens used in cataract surgery.
Optegra Colchester CO4 9PD	NHS	YES	Cataract YAG	4 weeks 4 weeks	12 weeks 12 weeks	Non MSE patients can be referred direct to optegra.referrals1@nhs.net	Plenty of onsite parking. Surgery performed by Mahmoud Radwan. Now undertake Dropless Cataract Surgery for their NHS patients. Hydrophobic Acrylic Lens used in cataract surgery.

Use the post code to look up the distance to the site from the px's house

Waiting times accurate in April 2026 - unless otherwise stated