

## Solent Medical Services

Solent Medical Services Limited is an NHS-staff owned company, established in May 2007 to provide high-quality, affordable community care services to Southampton and Hampshire NHS patients.

The company currently provides its Community Ophthalmology Service from Newtown Clinic on Lyon Street Southampton. The Service provides as an alternative to traditional acute care and is commissioned and supported as NHS activity by Southampton City and West Hampshire CCGs. We offer the less complex care and treatment that is traditionally provided in hospitals and Secondary Care.

Our aim is to provide the intermediary care for patients and to reduce the wait times and demand on the Secondary Care teams and also to provide patients with a sooner, closer to home and more satisfactory experience.

### **Ophthalmology Service**

The service runs from the RSH and offers 15 clinical sessions each week seeing a mix of patients with problems such as Cataracts, Glaucoma, Suspected Glaucoma, Ocular Hypertension, Blepharitis, dry eyes & Epiphoria and Vitreo Retinal problems.

The clinical team consists of an Ophthalmology Consultant, 2 GPSI, 1 Ophthalmology speciality Doctor, 1 Optometrists, two nurse specialists, 7 specially trained healthcare assistants and 2 Administrators who support the service.





### **Multi-Disciplinary Clinic**



The eye service operates a multi-disciplinary clinic. This means that different healthcare professionals are in clinic at the same time. Patients will see relevant members of the team during their appointment depending on their individual needs. Patients will receive various diagnostic tests depending on their requirements which may include Peripheral Field Tests, OCT, Biometry Tests and Pachimetry tests. These tests in turn ensure that the patient receives a comprehensive assessment at the appointment which should allow for safer diagnosis and ongoing care. The average waiting time from referral to appointment is 4 to 6 weeks.

### **Training and Teaching**

SMS encourages further education of its staff and also encourages clinicians and opticians to visit and spend time in clinic with our GPSI's and our team.

## Team Introduction

<p><b>Dr Hemant Bhatt – Clinical Lead and GPSI</b></p> <p>Dr Bhatt is a GPSI in Ophthalmology and has been the Clinical Lead for SMS Eye Clinic for 10 years. He founded the community clinic in 2001 which was initially based at Burgess Road surgery. It has grown from 1 clinic per week to 15 clinics per week seeing around 5000-6000 patients each year. Dr Bhatt was trained at the Southampton Eye Unit and works closely with the Consultants at UHS Hospitals. He has many years of experience in Ophthalmology and is well respected by local GP's and Optometrists.</p>	
<p><b>Mr Peter Hodgkins – Consultant</b></p> <p>Peter Hodgkins trained at Birmingham Medical School, and initially worked in A &amp; E and neurology. He trained in ophthalmology in Southampton, Portsmouth and Cambridge and undertook further specialist training at Moorfields Eye Hospital, Great Ormond Street and Cambridge. He has been a consultant Ophthalmologist for 20 years, previously in the Southampton Eye Unit but is now working exclusively with SMS. He is keen to teach and work with local Optoms to facilitate improvement in patient care and management.</p>	
<p><b>Dr Abigail Paul-Oddoye – GPSI</b></p> <p>Having graduated in Medicine from the University of Southampton, first trained for 7 years in Ophthalmology, and later trained as a General Practitioner. She has Membership of both the Royal College of Ophthalmologists and the Royal College of General Practitioners. She is a competent member of our team at SMS.</p>	
<p><b>Mrs Alison Meadows – Fellow in Ophthalmology</b></p> <p>An Ophthalmologist for 30 years, up to the grade of Associate Specialist. She passed the Membership of the Royal College of Ophthalmologists in 1991 and the Fellowship in 1996. Alison worked as an Oculoplastic surgeon for 12 years at Southampton Eye Unit up to 2008, during which time she was a member of the European Society of Oculoplastic and Reconstructive Surgeons.</p>	

<p>Since then she has worked as a general ophthalmologist for SMS in Southampton and more recently also at Bournemouth Eye Unit.</p>	
<p><b>Mr Robin Magner – Optometrist</b></p> <p>Has 40 years' experience in optometry which has included pre reg experience at the London Refraction Hospital (now the Institute of Optometry) and the fitting of contact lenses at Moorfields eye hospital. He has management and advanced clinical experience as an area manager and senior optometrist for Boots opticians as well as supervising 3rd year students of City University in orthoptics at the London Refraction hospital. He has general ophthalmology experience having worked for Newmedica at the royal South Hants and for southern health at Lymington hospital.</p>	
<p><b>Mrs Lorna Gray – Nurse Glaucoma Specialist</b></p> <p>Nurse Gray specialises in Glaucoma and see's routine follow up patients. She has spent time in the Eye Casualty Department and the Southampton Eye Unit. She is also trained to see Post-Operative Cataract patients and works with the Healthcare Assistants to asses competencies.</p>	
<p><b>Mrs Jodi Adams – Nurse Specialist (Post Cataract)</b></p> <p>Nurse Adams has specific training to assess Post Cataract cases. She has trained and worked within the Southampton Eye Casualty department and has a wealth of knowledge She has been with SMS since 2009 and is a valued member of the team</p>	