

Participating optical practices

For the latest list of participating GERS in the Black Country area, please scan the QR code above, or visit: primaryeyecare.co.uk/your-area/midlands/black-country/

Primary
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Black Country Glaucoma Enhanced Referral Service (GERS)

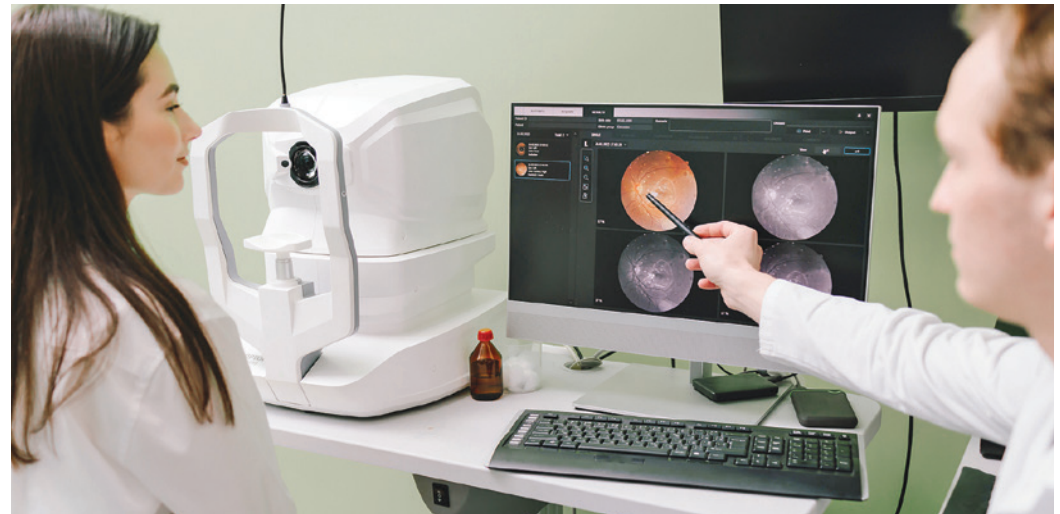
Free NHS assessment
at a local optical practice

Primary
Eyecare

Contact: info@primaryeyecare.co.uk
if you require further information regarding this service
or have any concerns, complaints or compliments

Primary Eyecare

This is a primary care optometry service for patients who are suspected, by their optometrist or GP, of developing glaucoma.



What happens at the appointment?

GERS optometrists have taken a further qualification in this area. The optometrist will discuss your eye history, symptoms, risk factors and any medical history. You should take your spectacles and a list of your current medication to the appointment.

The optometrist will look at the front and back of your eye and perform several checks. To enable them to repeat the eye pressure check and look at the back of your eyes, they will put an eye drop in your eye to numb the surface of the eye and dilate your pupils. Other tests conducted will include a visual fields test.

What happens after the test?

- You will be found to not have glaucoma, nor be at risk of developing glaucoma in the foreseeable future and be discharged back to the care of your own optometrist, *or*
- You will be found to have a diagnosis or strong risk of glaucoma and will be referred to the Hospital Eye Service for further assessment and management as appropriate.



What is glaucoma?

- Glaucoma is an eye condition which affects the optic nerve at the back of the eye. For most people it is a slowly progressive problem of the nerve which causes gradual loss of peripheral vision – this is difficult to detect in its early stages so you may not notice that there is anything wrong.
- Glaucoma can be linked with high eye pressure, your racial background and your family history. Most glaucoma cases can be treated with simple eye drops to prevent further loss of sight so it's very important to detect the condition as early as possible whilst making sure people are not sent to the hospital unnecessarily.

How do I book an appointment with the service?

- Where your optometrist feels you require a further assessment, you will be offered a choice of practices in the GERS service and your selected practice will be sent your information, with your consent. The GERS practice will contact you to offer an appointment within 2-4 weeks. If you do not hear from the practice within 10 days, please contact your referring practice to ensure the appointment is scheduled.



REMEMBER: you cannot drive yourself home from this appointment.