

# MINOR EYE CONDITIONS SERVICE (MECS)



## What is MECS?

Service video: <https://youtu.be/37ydPe5j9vw>

For patients experiencing **recently occurring** medical eye conditions. The service is provided by accredited optometrists, based in selected practices locally. Appointments are offered during practice working hours and the patient will be seen within 48 hours, but usually on the same day (depending upon the condition or symptoms experienced by the patient).

## Who can refer?

- Self referral
- Reception / Admin
- GP

## How to refer?



**Telephone** – Patient can contact a MECS practice within the catchment area for an assessment.

Issuing the patient with a digital service leaflet is helpful. Please note patients should not expect to be seen as a “walk in”.



**Electronically** - this can be done securely via your practice nhs.net account either by admin or a clinician to the MECS provider’s dedicated nhs.net address (need patient consent)

## Instructions to referrer

- Copy and paste current medications from EMIS or Vision into the body of the e-mail **OR**
- Ask the patient to take a copy of their repeat medication with them to their appointment
- List of participating opticians is available [here: Waltham Forest \(nel-eyecare.com\)](http://www.walthamforest.nhs.uk/nel-eyecare.com)
- **Please advise all patients referred that they will be contacted directly and to call their GP practice if they do not get a call, or if the service cannot meet their needs.**
- **Please ensure all patient contact details are correct.**

## What conditions are covered?

Included	Excluded
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recent blurring / reduction of vision in one or both eyes</li> <li>• Red eye (s) or eyelid (s)</li> <li>• Pain and/or discomfort in the eyes (NOT headaches)</li> <li>• Recent onset or sudden increase in flashes and/or floaters in one or both eyes</li> <li>• Mild trauma, e.g. a scratch to the outer surface of the eye or eyelid</li> <li>• Suspected foreign body in the eye</li> <li>• Significant recent discharge or watering of the eye</li> <li>• Lumps or bumps in the vicinity of the eye (usually affects eyelids)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children under 10</li> <li>• Headaches or migraines</li> <li>• Sudden onset of double vision</li> <li>• Patients who are already being monitored by the hospital or GP for the same condition (e.g. cataracts)</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Patients with these conditions should go directed to the A&amp;E department of Royal London Hospital, Moorfields Eye Hospital or Whipps Cross Hospital.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Recent onset of severe or total loss of vision in one or both eyes</li> <li>■ Considerable pain</li> <li>■ Significant trauma, i.e penetrating injury</li> </ul>