Welcome to the Ophthalmology Suite

Ophthalmology Department

Information for Patients

Last review: September 2026
Next review: September 2029
Leaflet number: 824 Version: 3

Introduction

The matron, sister and the nursing teams would like to welcome you to the Ophthalmology Suite at Leicester Royal Infirmary.

Please do not to drive to your appointment for an ophthalmic (eye) operation.

What is the Ophthalmology Suite?

The area is designed to give a welcoming, safe and relaxing environment for patients to be prepared for their operation on the day of admission.

There is a reception area, consulting rooms and separate waiting areas. There are changing facilities for male and female patients.

Can I bring someone with me?

A relative or friend can come with you to the Ophthalmology Suite. They will not be able to stay with you. This is because the area has limited seating space and also to maintain privacy for our patients, confidentiality and to prevent the spread of infections.

Before they leave, we will give your relative or friend a contact telephone number so they can call later in the day to find out if you are ready to go home. If you are staying overnight, we will give details of the ward you will be in and the visiting hours.

Most people having ‘day case’ operations will be with us for the whole morning or afternoon.

If you feel you need the support of your friend or relative, please talk to the nurse when you are admitted.

We have restaurants and a shop within the hospital for your family/friends. Out staff will be happy to direct you to these or you can find information about our on-site facilities here: https://www.uhleicester.nhs.uk/patients-visitors/

Our hospital facilities include:

- LEat Street restaurant
- WHSmith newsagent
- Cash machines

What happens on the day?

You will have the arrival time of early morning or late morning. Soon after your arrival you will have a consultation with your surgeon and your anaesthetist.

The nurses will admit and prepare you for your operation according to the theatre list and regular communication with your theatre team. The order of the list is decided by the doctors.

The suite will appear very busy to start with as the doctors see their patients. It will then settle down as patients are taken to theatre.

After your operation you will go to a discharge area or a ward if you need to stay in hospital.

What about waiting times?

We do our very best to keep your waiting time as short as possible before your operation. However, there will always be some waiting. The order of the list is decided by the surgeon and anaesthetist, but may change due to the needs of each patient.

Our nursing team will keep you informed as much as possible. We appreciate your patience and understanding while you wait for your operation. Please ask the staff if you need more information, but we cannot give exact times of when you will go to theatre. You can bring things to do while you wait, such as puzzles and books or magazines to read.

What about eating or drinking?

You will have been told if you can or cannot eat or drink. This will have been confirmed in your hospital letter.

You will not be offered refreshments, unless the anaesthetist has given permission. This is because it could cause serious complications during surgery and lead to your operation being cancelled. If the surgeon or anaesthetist allow food or drink, a member of our nursing team will arrange this.

What to bring into hospital

Please do not bring any valuables. Anything you bring will be your responsibility to keep safe.

Please bring the following:

- Your current medication: tablets, inhaler, creams,
- Any mobility aids such as a walking stick.
- Your sleep apnoea machine (CPAP) if you use one.
- Glasses and hearing aids.
- Dressing gown and slippers (if you are staying in hospital).

Please remove all make-up, nail varnish, jewellery and body piercings. You do not need to remove your wedding ring.

What if I have more questions or concerns?

We understand that having an operation can be a worrying time. We will do our best to ease your anxieties as much as possible. Please ask our staff if you have questions while you are with us.

If you have any questions between now and your admission date please call us on **0116 258 6248** (Monday to Friday, 8am to 4pm) and ask to speak to one of the nurses. Please contact us if you do not want your surgery.

What if I feel unwell?

If you feel unwell or have any of the symptoms below in the 48 hours (2 days) before your operation, please contact us on **0116 258 6248** / **0116 258 6850** and a nurse will advise you on what to do:

- Diarrhoea or being sick (vomiting)
- High temperature, fever, flu or cold
- Chicken pox
- Red, sticky eyes

How can I get to the hospital?

You can visit our website www.uhleicester.nhs.uk/ for the latest travel information or call us on the above number.

Where can I get information about car parking?

The Leicester Royal Infirmary car park is accessible through Havelock Street and is open 24 hours a day. The Car Park Office is open weekdays, 8am to 4pm, and can be contacted on **0116 258 5295** for more information.

Where is the Ophthalmology Suite?

The Ophthalmology Suite is in the Balmoral building on level 6. You can enter the building through either the Balmoral or Windsor entrances.

From the Balmoral lift: take the lift to level 6 and as you exit the lift turn right and the unit is signposted on that corridor.

From the stairs: when you reach level 6 turn left.

Please come to the Ophthalmology Suite reception which is just outside of ward 19.

We look forward to meeting you.

You can use the space below to make a note of any questions you may have and bring them with you on the day of your admission:

Health information and support is available at www.nhs.uk or call 111 for non-emergency medical advice
Visit www.uhleicester.nhs.uk for maps and information about visiting Leicester's Hospitals.
To give feedback about this information sheet, contact uhl-tr.informationforpatientsmailbox@nhs.net

اگر آپ کو یہ معلومات کسی اور زبان میں درکار ہیں، تو براہِ کرم مندرجہ ذیل نمبر پر ٹیلی فون کریں۔
ਜੇ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿਚ ਚਾਹੁੰਦੇ ਹੋ, ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਹੇਠਾਂ ਦਿੱਤੇ ਗਏ ਨੰਬਰ 'ਤੇ ਟੈਲੀਫੋਨ ਕਰੋ।
إذا كنت ترغب في الحصول على هذه المعلومات بلغةٍ أُخرى، الرجاء الاتصال على رقم الهاتف الذي يظهر في الأسفل
Aby uzyskać informacje w innym języku, proszę zadzwonić pod podany niżej numer telefonu
જો તમને અન્ય ભાષામાં આ માહિતી જોઈતી હોય, તો નીચે આપેલ નંબર પર કૃપા કરી ટેલિફોન કરો.

If you would like this information in another language or format such as EasyRead
or Braille, please telephone 0116 250 2959 or email uhl-tr.equalitymailbox@nhs.net

We are a research hospital and you may be asked to take part in research

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