

We can cater for both minor eye surgery and also eyelid surgery on one of our regular local anaesthetic lists. Patients typically only spend an hour with us while their procedure is completed.



If you would like to be seen by ACES please talk to your GP or Optometrist.

For more information contact us on

01945 466222

Or

ACES

The North Cambs Hospital

The Park

Wisbech

PE13 3AB

Or

www.aces-eyeclinic.co.uk

ACES is regulated by the Care Quality Commission. Our information file, including our statement of purpose, can be found in the patient waiting area. Disabled access is available.

CQC can be contacted on **03000 616161** or

enquires@cqc.org.uk

www.cqc.org.uk

Finsbury Tower

103-105 Bunhill Row

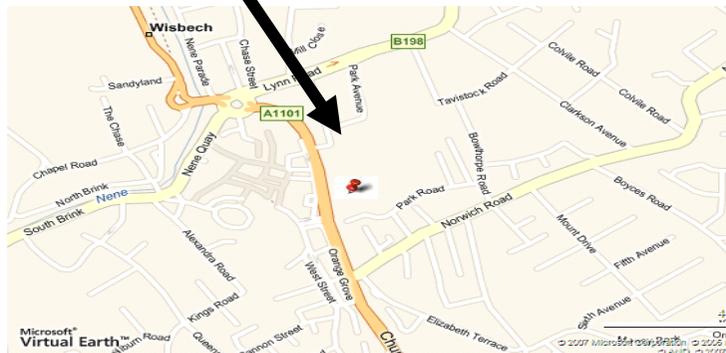
London EC1Y 8TG

If you have any concerns, comments or compliments about the information in this leaflet or about your treatment with ACES, please contact:

01945 466222

and ask to speak to the Registered Manager.

North Cambs Hospital



Frequently asked questions

Will I have to pay to be seen by ACES?

No. Aces is an NHS service and so is free.

Can anyone be seen by ACES?

Yes, though you will need to be referred by your General Practitioner or Optometrist. A small number of conditions are not suitable to be seen by us.

How will I receive my appointment?

Our Bookings co-ordinator will phone you to arrange a convenient appointment. You will receive confirmation by post.

Will I be seen by a junior doctor in training?

No. You will be seen by either Mr Jakeman, Mr Johnson or Dr Harrington, all of whom are very experienced consultants.



Choroidal Naevus



Patient Information Leaflet

Choroidal naevus

What is a choroidal naevus?

This is a mole or freckle at the back of the eye. They occur here just as they do on our skin because both parts of our bodies have pigmented cells called melanocytes.



Are they a cause for concern?

Your optometrist or GP may have referred you to ACES so that one of our expert ophthalmologists can check that what you have is indeed a choroidal naevus rather than a melanoma. Choroidal naevi are benign and melanomas are malignant.

Are choroidal naevi common?

About one in ten of us have choroidal naevi, so they are very common. Choroidal melanomas are rare with only one in two million people developing one every year.

Can choroidal naevi become melanomas?

Yes, out of 20,000 people with choroidal naevi, only one will develop into a melanoma over an entire lifetime.

How do I know that my choroidal naevus is not a melanoma?

Your ACES ophthalmologist will look for several signs which include:

- Thickness over 1mm
- Fluid
- Size over 5mm
- Orange pigment spots on the surface (White 'drusen' are reassuring signs that there has been no change and that waste material has built up)
- Margin of the pigment next to the optic nerve

We may observe your naevus for signs of growth and at some point offer you discharge to the care of your optometrist for regular review.

Is there anything that I should look out for?

You should look out for

- Blurring of vision
- Distortion of vision
- Flashing lights in the periphery of your field of vision
- Reduction in your field of vision

Can choroidal naevi be treated?

No, choroidal naevi do not require any treatment.

Melanomas, on the other hand are usually treated with radiotherapy.

How important is it to spot a choroidal melanoma early?

Treatment of choroidal melanomas does not affect survival but early diagnosis might theoretically reduce chances of spread to other parts of the body.