



Visual Field Test

Post surgery

A Visual Field Test (VFT) is designed to assess the full horizontal and vertical range and sensitivity of your vision.

It is used to detect blind spots (scotomas) and other visual field defects that indicate various eye conditions. These conditions can often occur without you being aware of any vision loss.

Conditions that can cause visual field defects include:

- Glaucoma
- Diseases of the retina
- Optic neuropathy
- Brain tumours
- Stroke
- Eyelid conditions such as ptosis

The test is also used in the testing of the toxicity of certain medications.

The most common reason for having a Visual Field Test is Glaucoma monitoring. As Glaucoma is typically a gradual process the test result can help assess initial damage, any changes over time, and the effectiveness of treatment.



What is the test like?

The Visual Field Test can take up to 10-15 minutes (5-7 minutes on each eye).

- The eye specialist will give you instructions on how to take the test. You will sit at the VFT machine in a quiet and darkened room.
- One eye is tested while the other eye is covered. While looking into a large, dome-shaped machine with your eye focused on a central light you are required to push a button whenever you see a light. The light will vary in brightness and will appear off to the side of your vision. The process is then repeated for the other eye.
- This process will provide the eye specialist with a map of your visual field.

We record the results of your first Visual Field Test as a 'baseline'. We will then test you every 12-18 months or at a frequency advised by your eye specialist. Subsequent

testing enables your eye specialist to compare how your results differ from the baseline and how well your treatment is working.

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