### Eyes are the window to your health

OCT scans can sometimes also reveal signs of other health issues elsewhere in your body, which is why your eyes are said to be the window to your health. Eye examinations are important not only to assess the health of your eye, but also your overall health.

### What happens when I have a scan?

The test is very simple, takes just a few seconds and is completely non-contact, meaning there are no sudden puffs of air or flashes of light. Any areas of your eye which appear unusual can then be measured with the OCT and monitored over time with additional scans, at a later date. These scans can be lined up with the original and compared to see if any changes have occurred over time in your eye.

### What can you see with OCT?

OCT technology mainly looks at your retina, checking for any abnormalities or damage. The retina can be damaged by many common diseases such as Glaucoma, Diabetes and Age Related Macula Degeneration. All of these can lead to visual impairment or even blindness if not detected and managed properly. OCT technology allows your practitioner to identify any potential problems at a much earlier stage, usually allowing you better treatment options and a better visual outcome.



OCT scan available from:

Advances in technology over the last 15 years have transformed eyecare, with OCT now common within most hospitals. However, only the most advanced optometry practices offer this technology. Your optometry practice has chosen to invest in OCT, in order to ensure that your eyesight is protected, both now and in the future.

An OCT scan is not performed as part of the NHS Eye Test, but as part of an enhanced eye examination. An enhanced eye examination tests not only your sight but also the health of your eye. Please ask your practitioner for more details.



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# What is OCT?

OCT stands for Optical Coherence Tomography and is a complex technology used to measure the eye and particularly the layers of the retina. The retina is the light sensitive area at the back of the eye, equivalent to film in a camera or a sensor in a digital camera.



An OCT scan is similar to an MRI or CAT scan for the eyes. OCT technology can image in 3D allowing your practitioner to see, sometimes for the first time, problems within your eye that could not easily be seen before.



## Glaucoma

High definition data and analysis tools allow your practitioner to scan for early detection of glaucoma and to help monitor any changes.



Specialist scans of the front of your eye also look closely at your anterior chamber angles, which can be key to detecting glaucoma.



### A picture paints a thousand words



Just by looking at these images, this can help your practitioner to assess the health of your eye and identify any abnormalities or diseases.