

Dorset Diabetic Eye Screening Programme

Information about the drops used to dilate your pupils

The drops may cause some stinging for a few seconds. After about 20 minutes, your sight may be blurred and it may be difficult to focus on objects near to you. On a sunny day, you may find the light outdoors dazzling. The blurring lasts two to six hours, depending on which drops have been used. This will affect your ability to drive.

Very rarely, the drops used can cause a sudden rise in pressure within your eye. This only happens in people who are already at risk of developing the problem at some point in their lives. However, when it happens, it needs prompt treatment in an eye unit. The symptoms of a sudden rise in pressure may include:

- **pain or severe discomfort in your eye;**
- **redness of the white of your eye;**
- **constantly blurred sight, sometimes with rainbow haloes around lights;**
- **nausea and vomiting.**

If you experience ***any of these symptoms*** within 24 hours of the screening test, contact the optician practice or if unavailable, go to the local eye unit.

Take this leaflet with you.

Bournemouth and Poole area go to:

The Royal Bournemouth Hospital

The Eye Casualty Department

Telephone 01202 704181

Open daily 9am to 9pm

Out of hours, RBH main Accident and Emergency

West Dorset area go to:

Dorset County Hospital, Dorchester

The Eye Clinic

Telephone 01305 255192

Open Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm

Out of hours, main Accident and Emergency (01305 251150)

Mydriatic drops used:

Tropicamide 1%

Other