

# Patients referred to Ipswich hospital for Cataract Surgery.

Generally two hospital visits Pre-  
Assessment and day of surgery.

Occasionally one stop clinic

# Pre-Assessment

Approx. 1hr appointment.

- Healthcare assistance uses IOL master to measure K's and Axial length of eye. Used to calculate IOL required.
- Nurse measures VA's, BP, Pulse, goes through medical history and general health and medication, Assesses mobility and ability to lie flat and still for 20-30mins. Discuss care after surgery. Patient is dilated (Do not drive to appointment)
- Consultant explains risks, examines patient and consents patient, discusses refractive outcome e.g. emmetropia or reduced myopia. Date given for surgery, can be within weeks.

# Cataract Surgery

- Vast majority of patients have Local anaesthetic.
- Morning or afternoon. Approx 2-3hrs
- Patients advised to eat before appointment.
  - Patient changes into hospital gown, Nurse dilates pupil 30mins
  - Anaesthetist adds topical anaesthetics. A small number of patients have sub Tenon injection, depends on the surgeon. Small number have needle in back of hand.
  - Surgeon, Phacoemulsification operation takes 20-30mins, Eye covered with small dressing and protective shield. Nurse to hold hand.
  - Nurse checks BP, patient given light refreshments and analgesic, Nurse discuss topical medication maxidex for 4 weeks.

(General anaesthetic similar procedure patients must fast)

# Post Op

- Eye cover can be removed next day but shield worn at night for 5 days
- Most advised to go to their own opticians in 1 months' time. High risk patients may have 24hr or 1-2 week follow up at the hospital.
- One stop clinic
  - Generally second eye, telephone health/medication assessment. Day of surgery patient is dilated and examined and consented by ophthalmologist then surgery as above.