

AVAILABLE TO BOOK NOW

What is OCT? (Optical Coherence Tomography)

The OCT machine is a hospital-grade scanner; the data from this type of scan can help detect, diagnose, and manage many eye conditions earlier than usual when interpreted in conjunction with eye examination results. (All the different tests help to piece together a fuller picture of the eye's health and function)

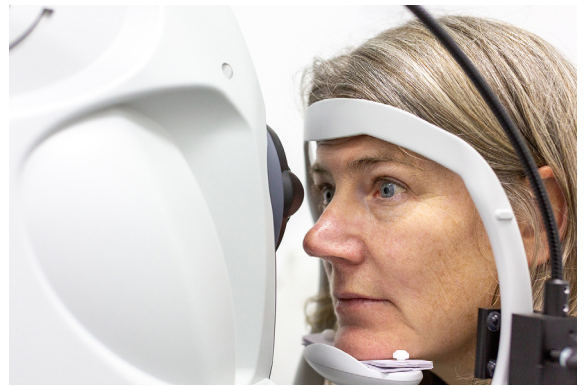


What does this procedure involve?

The OCT uses light waves to scan across the 13 retinal layers at the back of the eye, generating a 3D cross-sectional image (similar to cutting a slice of cake to see what's inside). This shows any damaged areas in these deeper layers which are not visible by retinal photography or ophthalmoscopy (the standard torchlight method used to view the superficial top layer)

What happens during OCT?

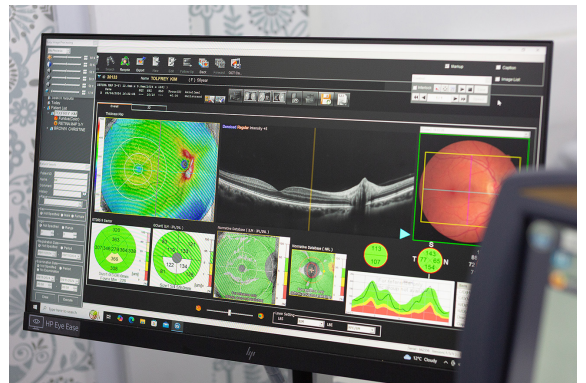
You will be seated in front of the OCT machine and asked to place your chin on a chinrest and fixate on a flashing light. The scans take about 5 seconds for each eye (approximately 100,000 scans per second). The procedure is painless and has no side effects.



What happens to the results?

Your optometrist will carefully study the scans, and if they are within normal limits, the results may be provided immediately. However, if there are any abnormalities we may need extra time to study the scans before advising you about any further course of action that is indicated.

The more detailed images of an OCT scan allow us to make an earlier diagnosis and treatment plan which can help prevent or reduce sight loss in many conditions, most commonly: macular degeneration, diabetic retinopathy and glaucoma.



Should I book a scan?

We would recommend a scan if any of these apply to you:

- > Over 40 years old (as age increases risk of degenerative disease)
There is a family history of eye disease
- > You suffer from any vascular disease, eg. Diabetes, high blood pressure or cholesterol
- > We suggest a scan to assist diagnosis if we suspect retinal disease at an eye exam
- > If it would give you "peace of mind" for a £20 scan!

(OCT is not generally recommended for under 18's as normative data is not available)