



# Our guide for cataract surgery

You're in safe hands



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## Enjoy a confident, clearer future

**Benenden Hospital is a private hospital situated in an area of outstanding natural beauty. It promotes a calm, comfortable and healing environment.**

We're one of the biggest providers of private cataract surgery and eye treatments in the South East of England, performing thousands of operations each year in our clean and infection-free specialist Eye Unit.

Our Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeons and experienced clinical team, have an excellent reputation with local GPs and Opticians.

# About Benenden Hospital

**As a private patient we offer you fast track access to outpatient procedures, including cataracts surgery.**

## **Short waiting times**

For private patients we can offer fast track access to your consultation, with treatment or surgery at a time to suit you. To help reduce your hospital visits we organise, where possible, for your initial consultation, diagnostic tests and pre-assessment for surgery to be undertaken on the same day.

At all times we provide a welcoming, unhurried and informative approach to your care, supporting you every step of the way to help you achieve the best possible outcome.

## **Fixed price guarantee**

We offer a competitive all inclusive price. However, if your Consultant recommends additional or alternative treatment, this will be charged at the self-pay rates for that treatment.

## **High levels of patient satisfaction**

We actively encourage our patients to leave feedback when they visit Benenden Hospital. Our patient satisfaction levels are consistently high, demonstrating the quality care we provide in a relaxing and compassionate environment.

## **Comfortable and convenient range of facilities**

Benenden Hospital provides a modern, safe, and comfortable environment, with ample on-site parking. We also offer an on-site Pharmacy and our Pavilion Restaurant offers healthy and nutritious meals and snacks.

## **Rigorous infection control**

We boast a 0% rate for hospital acquired MRSA infections. This is driven by the strict cleaning and hygiene regimes we have in place, delivered by our own highly trained staff.

**Rated  
Outstanding  
by the Care  
Quality  
Commission**



[www.cqc.org.uk/sites/default/files/new\\_reports/AAAG2748.pdf](http://www.cqc.org.uk/sites/default/files/new_reports/AAAG2748.pdf)





Visit [www.benenden.org.uk](http://www.benenden.org.uk) to watch our experts discuss cataract treatment

## An opportunity to improve your vision

**Seeing clearly again is wonderful – now you have the chance to correct your eyesight at the same time.**

### **What are cataracts?**

Cataract refers to the clouding of your natural lens. Most cataracts are caused by natural changes in the lens brought on by age. You may notice that your sight just isn't quite right as cataracts generally develop slowly. Gradually your sight becomes cloudier, making it harder to see. Lights can seem to glare and you may notice that colours look different.

### **Your cataract treatment**

Cataracts are treated by removing the cloudy lens and replacing it with an artificial plastic lens (an intraocular implant).

Our Consultants will discuss the treatment paths available to you and assist in making the right decision for you.

You'll undergo a comprehensive pre-operative examination which will cover your general health as well as a detailed assessment of your eyes.

Your Consultant will be able to identify which lenses will suit your individual needs.

It's a day case procedure so there's no overnight stay. Surgery is performed under drop-applied local anaesthetic which usually means spending three to four hours at the hospital.

You will be treated in our safe, comfortable and modern hospital.

Following treatment, you will have access to a 24/7 phone line so you can keep in contact with a qualified specialist Ophthalmic Consultant should you need to.

# Benefit from a choice of advanced lenses

Seeing clearly again is wonderful – now you have the chance to correct your eyesight at the same time.

## Standard lenses

The standard artificial lens implanted is monofocal.

### Monofocal lens

The monofocal lens provides one focal point and you can therefore choose to have either clear distance vision or the near vision needed for reading, using a mobile phone, looking at a watch or choosing from a menu. Patients opting for this lens will need reading glasses or distance glasses after the surgery.

## Special lenses

### Multifocal lens

Multifocal lenses provide clear vision plus a full range of vision – distance, intermediate and near. The need for glasses afterwards is greatly reduced and most patients may not need glasses at all. There are some compromises with these lenses, which will be discussed at your consultation.

### Toric lens for astigmatism

Toric lenses correct astigmatism and are available as a monofocal or multifocal lens.





## Our expertise brings better results

**Whilst many NHS and private facilities use general eye consultants or registrars to carry out cataract surgery, Benenden Hospital has made the conscious decision to provide Consultants who specialise in cataract surgery, because of their higher level of expertise in the field.**

With the eye unit team performing thousands of cataract surgeries each year, our level of experience, expertise and clinical outcomes are among the best in the UK. Benenden Hospital now treats an equivalent number of patients to many local District General Hospitals, whilst maintaining outstanding clinical results.

If you wish to be assessed for special lenses you will need to attend a "special lens clinic" where you will be assessed by both an Optometrist and a Consultant, who will perform a number of tests to determine your suitability. There will be a detailed discussion about your lifestyle and what can be expected from each type of lens.

At the end of the consultation you will be able to book the date for your operation. The lenses required to give you the best possible vision will be ordered specially for you. The price charged for this service includes all assessments, operation and follow ups as well as the additional price of the special lenses.

### **Rapid treatment access**

Self-paying or private medically insured patients can make an appointment straightaway, all you need is a report from your Optician.

### **Additional ophthalmic services**

We offer a full ophthalmic diagnostic service where we are able to assess and diagnose any eye condition you may have.

We also offer a range of ophthalmic treatments which include YAG laser capsulotomy and a range of oculoplastic procedures. Including removal of lesions, Eyelid correction surgery, Brow lift and treatment for watery eyes. Please contact us for additional treatments.

# Our team of experts

Meet the specialists who make us a Centre of Excellence.



**Mr Wallace Poon**

Clinical Lead of Eye Service, Consultant Ophthalmologist  
Special interests: Cataract Surgery for complex cases, Major Eye Trauma and Vitreoretinal Surgery, which includes dealing with the complications of Cataract Surgery.



**Mr David Schultz**

Consultant Ophthalmologist  
Special interests: Cataract Surgery for complex cases, Major Eye Trauma and Vitreoretinal Surgery, which includes dealing with the complications of Cataract Surgery.



**Dr Thomas Kwok**

Consultant Ophthalmologist  
Special interests: Medical Retina, Intravitreal Injection Treatments, Laser Treatment (YAG and Retinal Laser), Cataract Surgery.



**Dr Sarit Y Lesnik-Oberstein**

Consultant Ophthalmologist  
Special interests: Cataracts, Diabetic Retinopathy, Vitreoretinal Surgery.



**Mr Joe Devereux**

Consultant Ophthalmic and Oculoplastic Surgeon  
Special interests: Small Incision Cataract Surgery, Refractive Lens Surgery and Oculoplastics.



**Elizabeth Hawkes**

Consultant Ophthalmic and Oculoplastic Surgeon  
Special interests: Cataract Surgery, Oculoplastic Surgery and Blepharoplasty.



**Jonathan Aboshiha**

Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeon  
Special interests: Cataract Surgery, Corneal Disease and Laser Treatments.



**Yvonne Luo**

Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeon  
Special interests: Cataract Surgery, Retinal Detachment, Eye Trauma and Medical Retinal Conditions.



**Mr Damian Lake**

Consultant Ophthalmologist  
Special interests: Corneal Transplantation, Cataract Surgery and Refractive Lens Surgery.



**Mr Godfrey Borg**

Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeon  
Special interests: Small Incision Cataract Surgery, Medical Retina, Laser Treatment (YAG, SLT and Retinal Laser).



**Mr Alfonso Perez**

Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeon  
Special interests: Cornea, Complex Cataract, and Anterior Segment Surgery.



**Mr Conor Lane**

Specialist Refractive Optometrist



**Ms Alison Moore**

Specialist Refractive Optometrist

# Accessing cataract surgery at Benenden Hospital

Ask your optician or GP to refer you to Benenden Hospital.

## Self-paying patients

As a private or self-funded patient you can use a GP referral or an optician's report to book directly with the hospital. You can also find out more information and costs on **01580 242 521**.

If you are seeking services on the NHS, your GP may refer you direct via NHS e-Referral service by going online to **chooseandbook.nhs.uk** or by calling **0345 6088 888** requesting Benenden Hospital.

GP referral needed? Yes

## Benenden Health members

For Benenden members, once you have a GP referral you will need to contact Benenden member services on **0800 414 8100** to discuss the referral process.

GP or optometrist referral needed? Yes

When booking your consultation please let us know if you are interested in either the standard option or the special lens option – see price lists below.

For more information contact the Private Patient's Team

 **01580 242 521**

 **private.patients@benenden.org.uk**

 **www.benendenhospital.org.uk**

\* Calls to 0800 numbers are free from BT landlines however charges may apply from other providers. Calls from mobile phones may also incur charges. Please note that your call will be recorded for our mutual security and also for training and quality purposes. Lines open 8am–8pm, Monday–Friday (excl. bank holidays) and Saturday, 8am–4pm.



**Benenden Hospital Trust,  
Goddards Green Road,  
Benenden, Cranbrook,  
Kent TN17 4AX.  
Call 01580 240 333**



**For more information give us a call**



**01580 242 521**



**private.patients@benenden.org.uk**



**www.benendenhospital.org.uk**

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