

Central Mersey Diabetic Retinopathy Screening Programme

Safety and Hygiene Protocol for Diabetic Retinal Screening

- The camera front should be kept clean and free of dust, marks and smears for each patient. The camera should be cleaned as recommended by the suppliers
- Before each patient, clean the chin/head rest and table with appropriate cleansing wipes, as recommended by the supplier
- Where used, the chin rest paper should be removed before each patient
- Clean occluders and pinholes used for measuring VA before each patient
- Before each patient, wash hands using liquid soap and hot, running water or hand cleansing rub
- The hands should only be dried with disposable paper towels
- Check that all dilating drops are within expiry date and dispose of any that are not within expiry date
- Note drop batch numbers and expiry date and type into the patient's DRSS record card
- Use only one single dose drop per patient
- Dispose of drops as per manufacturers recommendations and PCT protocol
- Explain fully to the patient why the drops are used and that they sting for a moment or two. They will start to work in around 10 minutes and should reach full effect by 30 minutes
- Explain to the patient that the drops will impair vision for a few hours and they are advised not to drive or return to work for at least 4 hours
- Advise the patient to contact you if they experience any reaction to the drops

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