

Information for patients and carers

Newborn Infant Physical Examination (NIPE) Outcomes

Eye Referral

A decorative graphic at the bottom of the page consisting of three overlapping, wavy bands of blue color, transitioning from a lighter blue at the top to a darker blue at the bottom.

Why are the eyes checked during the examination (NIPE)?

2 or 3 in every 10,000 babies are born with cataracts in one or both eyes. Cataracts are a clouding of the transparent lens inside the eye and will need treatment.

During the examination the health professional will check the appearance and movement of your baby's eyes, looking for cataracts and other conditions. This check cannot tell you how well your baby can see.

What happens after the NIPE examination?

If the eye screening has a positive result during the NIPE, a referral will be completed by the healthcare professional to the ophthalmology team. An appointment will be received in the post for this, and it should be within two weeks of the initial section.

If you have any concerns, you can discuss them with your midwife or the healthcare professional who does the examination.

[Download a leaflet about screening tests for you and your baby from GOV.UK](#)

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/60f6a227e90e0764c5938398/Screening_tests_for_you_and_your_baby_easy_guide_NIPE_section_June_2020.pdf

Contact details

Should you require further advice or information please telephone:

Antenatal and Newborn Screening Team **01772 524693**

Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm.

Sources of further information

www.lancsteachinghospitals.nhs.uk

www.nhs.uk

www.accessable.co.uk

www.patient.co.uk

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www.lancsteachinghospitals.nhs.uk/patient-information-leaflets

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