

Practice Plus Group, Ophthalmology

Referral information for Wet AMD

Referral acceptance

- Over 18 years old
- Not require general anaesthetic
- Hypertension should be controlled / stable

Referral acceptance notes

- If a patient is referred and is found to have macular holes, lamellar holes, epiretinal membranes we will accept the referral and complete the scans. The consultant will decide on a suitable management plan, it is usual to treat wet AMD and refer on other the co-morbidities.
- These conditions do not contraindicate intravitreal therapy and we will continue to treat if a patient has treatable AMD. The patient should be referred to a specialist provider for the other conditions. It is usual to treat wet AMD as a priority and to refer onwards for other conditions.
- In case of an emergency such as retinal detachment this is the priority condition and the consultant will need to decide management on a case per case basis referring onwards as appropriate.
- In the circumstance that a glaucoma patient has an IOP is above 24 the consultant will decide if the intravitreal injection (IVI) treatment is urgent and issue a management plan. The patient will be referred on to local ophthalmology service for glaucoma management. But will be continued to be seen by us for Wet AMD treatment.
- In the event of a patient presenting with chalazia or conjunctivitis, we will wait until the condition is clear, due to the risk of endophthalmitis. We will accept the referral and get a baseline OCT scan to determine the urgency of treatment. Antibiotics will be prescribed to clear the infection. The patient will not be treated with active infective disease. Anti VEGF injections should not be performed when there is an infection in or around either eye.
- In patients that have had recent myocardial infarction, stroke, vascular events or unstable angina in the past six months anti VEGF injections should be used with caution and require a consultant management plan evaluating risks and benefits.
- Anti VEGF injections should not be used if patient is trying to become pregnant, during pregnancy or breast feeding.