

FAQ on MECS

Q1. Px self-presents before regular eye examination interval with blurry vision.

If the blurry vision is (or is likely to be) refractive in nature then a GOS / private eye exam is indicated not a MECS. Triage questions such as, "Does the blurry vision come and go?" and, "Has this blurry vision come on suddenly?" A "yes" to these questions might suggest a MECS appointment.

Q2. Px referred to your practice by GP with flashes and floaters. They have not had an eye examination for 3 years.

This suggests a MECS appointment as you would want to dilate and investigate these symptoms regardless of refractive findings. If nothing untoward is discovered, recommend an eye examination on a separate occasion.

Q3. Px complaining of red, watery (or perhaps dry) eyes for last 6 months.

This is NOT appropriate for MECS as symptoms present for more than 3 months are not eligible (whether self-referred or directed by another healthcare provider - eg pharmacist or dermatologist)

Q4. GP calls your practice to book a MECS appointment today. You have no appointment slots. What should you do?

You need to triage this Px. If you judge that the symptoms are sight threatening then you MUST see the patient within 24 hours. If this is impossible then you should make every attempt to arrange MECS at an alternative practice. If the symptoms are less urgent in nature (eg watery eye) then arrange an appointment within a reasonable time frame.

Q5. Px is asked to attend your practice by Casualty as they have a FB that they have been unable to remove.

This depends on your own confidence and competence. If you are confident you can manage this do so, but if you are not comfortable with FB removal then you should refer to a practitioner that is.

6. GP calls you to examine a 1 year old child with vague symptoms.

This depends on your confidence and competence with infants. If you do not want to see an infant then you should attempt to refer to a practitioner that can and will. List of practices are on the Bradford LOC website.