Ophthalmic Imaging

Register using a self check-in kiosk in the main entrance of the Centennial or the Dickson Building, Victoria General site.

Next, go to the Eye Care Centre in the Centennial Building, 2A.

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Ophthalmic Imaging

What is ophthalmic imaging?

Ophthalmic imaging is when images (pictures) are taken of the eye. These pictures are used to detect (find) eye conditions.

Types of ophthalmic imaging include:

External photography: Pictures are taken of the outer parts of the eye (like the lashes and eyelids).

Colour fundus photography: Pictures are taken of the back of the eye (like the optic nerve and the retina). The photographer will give you eye drops to dilate your pupils (make them bigger).

Slit-lamp photography: Pictures are taken to check problems in the cornea, iris, and lens. The photographer **may** give you eye drops to dilate your pupils, if needed.

Optical Coherence Tomography (OCT): OCT uses light waves to take detailed images of the eye. It can be used to find eye diseases early on. It is also used to check on eye disease at different stages. The photographer **may** give you eye drops to dilate your pupils, if needed.

Healthy eye

Retina

Cornea

Iris

Lens

Optic nerve
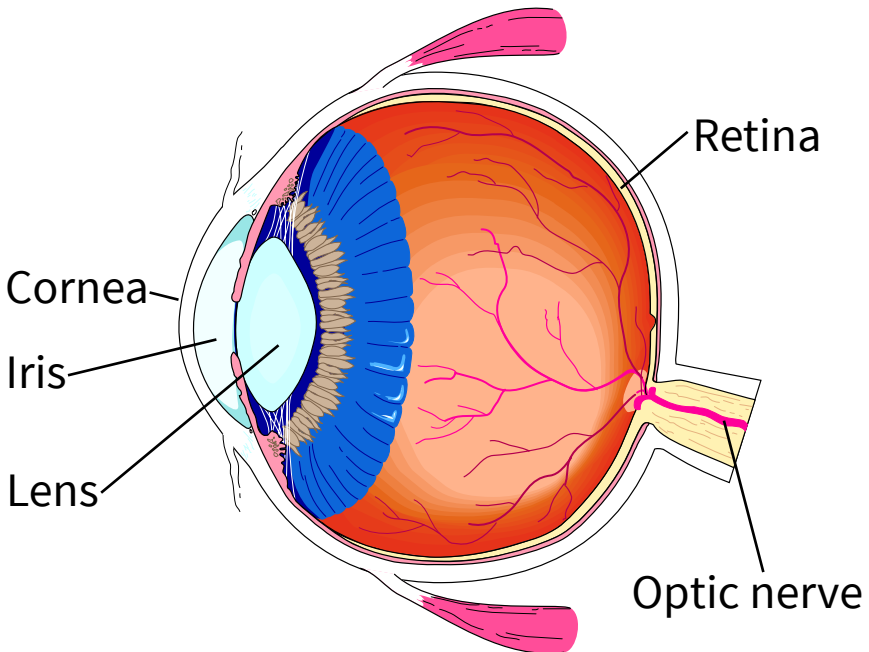
How do I get ready for ophthalmic imaging?

- Plan to be at the Eye Care Centre for about 1 hour.

- Bring a list of all of your medications (including over-the-counter and herbal products), eye drops, and allergies.

- If you wear contact lenses, we may ask you **not** to wear them on the day of your imaging. Please bring your glasses, contact lenses, lens case, and solution, if needed.

- You can eat your meals as usual.

- Your pupils will be dilated with eye drops for:
  › All fundus imaging
  › Some types of slit-lamp imaging
  › OCT

  You will not be allowed to drive home. Your vision will be blurry because of the drops. **You must arrange for someone to drive you home.**

How is ophthalmic imaging done?

- The photographer usually uses a digital camera with a flash. The camera is attached to a special microscope that lets the photographer view and take pictures of the parts of your eye.

- The photographer will explain how the imaging is done.

- The imaging usually takes 5 to 15 minutes.

- You will place your chin and forehead against rests.

- You will look at a target with one eye while the photographer takes pictures of the other eye.

- You will open your eyes wide and then a flash will go off. **Do not** blink until after the flash.

What will happen after the imaging is done?

- The flashes will blur your vision for 2 to 5 minutes.

- If your eyes were dilated, the drops may blur your vision. **Do not drive until your vision clears.** Have someone drive you home.

- **When your pupils are dilated, your eyes will be very sensitive to light.** Wear sunglasses, especially if it is a bright, sunny day.

> **What are your questions?**
> **Please ask. We are here to help you.**

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