

PATIENT INFORMATION

OPHTHALMOLOGY DEPARTMENT

Your ophthalmologist (eye doctor) has diagnosed a Posterior Vitreous Detachment (PVD).

The vitreous is a transparent gel substance filling the back of the eye and acts as a shock absorber. As we age the vitreous gel shrinks and separates itself from part of the retina.

Signs and Symptoms

- You notice black “floaters” in your vision which move with the eye and settle as the eye rests
- You may be aware of flashing lights, like little flickers in the periphery of your vision
- The eye will be normal to look at

What happens now?

There is no treatment required for this condition

The floaters will never really disappear but, in time, you will start taking less notice of them

Over the next few days or weeks the flashing lights should gradually settle down

However, if you notice:

- Sudden increase in the number of floaters in your vision
- New floaters in your vision
- A portion of your visual field missing
- A curtain effect coming across your vision

Please contact the helpline immediately:

Ashford Hospital – Tel 01784 884 402

St. Peter's Hospital – Tel 01932 722 686

Senior Nurses:

**Matron
Sister**

**Mandy Wilson
Maggie Lewis
Jane Sidhu**

Ophthalmic Nurse Practitioner

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