Prices for consultations and cataract surgery

Initial Consultation - £200 Biometry £51.50

Follow up consultation - £100 (for self- pay cataract packages this is included in the price of surgery)

Cataract surgery

These prices includes all hospital fees, IOL costs + all postoperative consultations for a 3 month period related to your surgery. There will be an additional anaesthetic charge for patients who choose to have a general anaesthetic.

Winfield Hospital

Monofocal IOL - £2650

Monofocal Toric IOL – £2650

Symfony (EDOF) IOL - £3445 Toric Symfony IOL - £ 3645

Tetbury Hospital

Monofocal IOL - £2235

Monofocal Toric IOL - £2615

Symfony (EDOF) IOL - £2925 Toric Symfony IOL - £3025

Zeiss AT LISA Trifocal - £2975

The surgeon and surgical equipment are exactly the same in both hospitals.

Private Medical Insurance

Some patients may choose to use their Private Medical Insurance to pay for their cataract surgery. The coverage offered by PMI providers is extremely variable and policies may differ significantly for the same PMI company.

Historically having private medical insurance meant that patients could choose the surgeon they wanted to see and the cost of cataract surgery would be covered in full. Unfortunately, this is no longer the case for many PMI companies. This is because 8-10 years ago some insurers reduced the surgeon's remuneration for cataract surgery by up to 70%!

They then introduced the concept of "approved" and "fee assured" surgeons. The term "approved" surgeon is a very misleading one, as **no PMI company has the authority / remit to "approve" a surgeon,** this is solely the responsibility of the General Medical Council and the Royal College of Ophthalmologists.

What they mean by an "approved" or "fee assured" surgeon is a surgeon who is prepared to work for these reduced fees. Newly appointed consultants have no choice but to accept this fee structure, otherwise they will not be able to treat patients insured by that PMI company.

The result of these measures is that the majority of "approved" and "fee assured" surgeons are the more junior consultants and this makes it more difficult for patients to see the more experienced senior surgeons.

Some PMI policies will also specify the hospital where surgery can be performed and some do not cover the cost of an anaesthetist.

Carole-Anne is an expert when it comes to dealing with insurance companies and she will be able to guide you through the "minefield" of bureaucracy.