



Laura, Age 48

Laura's story

Pfizer life aims to help you make more informed decisions about how you can live your life in the best possible health. This story is an example of one patient's experience with glaucoma. However your experience may be very different.

I knew my aunt May has something wrong with her eyes. I remember seeing her disappear into the bathroom to "take her drops". It's just one of the things she does, and I never thought too much about it. Besides if you know her, you'd know she's a proud person, and she never really talks about it.

It seems I've always been short sighted. Last year I went to get some new glasses at the opticians, as my son had managed to stand on mine, but instead of just giving me new frames, they gave me a proper check up.

Turns out that this was really lucky. In the long run.

Because I was a bit shaken when the optician told me that I needed to visit a specialist, as I may have glaucoma. And if so, I would probably need to take a treatment for the rest of my life.

The lucky bit was that if the problem hadn't been caught, I could have lost a lot of my sight.

The optician explained that the condition can usually be treated with eye drops. I don't know why, but it just hadn't clicked that my aunt had glaucoma. The optician said it often runs in families.

Going to the specialist – ophthalmologist – at the hospital felt a bit daunting. But my Aunt offered to come along too, and told me she had been taking drops for years. I was really happy that she came with me.

I saw the specialist, and now I take eye drops every day. They really drilled in how important it is not to let glaucoma steal your sight. Luckily they caught my glaucoma early – and I am going to make certain that my children, in fact everyone in the family knows all about getting their eyes checked regularly. It just makes sense.