

## Ophthalmology – Information for GPs

Many ophthalmic problems present to General Practice. GPs have a fundamental role in management of many common ophthalmological conditions e.g. conjunctivitis, allergy and dry eye. However, more and more primary eye care is being performed by optometrists

Patients are encouraged to attend their local optometrist as the primary point of contact for eye care in the community. It is acceptable for GPs to consider referral to an optometrist who has the equipment necessary to carry out detailed refraction, corneal and fundal examinations when this may not be possible in general practice. We have uploaded a referral form you may wish to use when you advise a patient to attend an optometrist for an assessment.

### **[GP referral to optometry Form](#)**

**If a referral to secondary care is required please ensure that patients are aware of the reason(s) for referral.**

If you organise an emergency/out of hours appointment for a patient please advise them of the possibility they may have dilating drops. You can find more information about this on the page '[Information for attending appointments](#)'

Please also read the following [appendix](#) on the Lothian GP and Optometrist referral pathway for information on referring to ophthalmology at the PAEP and St Johns.