

## **Ophthalmology – What to include in the referral**

### **The date**

### **Contact details**

- Please include up to date home and mobile phone numbers. We often send out soon appointments by first class post so please also ensure an up to date address.

### **Past medical history**

- Please include GP summary if using SCI gateway

### **Past ophthalmic history**

- Please include GP summary if using SCI gateway
- Contact lens use is very important to note as well as previous surgery or ophthalmic conditions.

### **Allergies**

### **Current medications/treatment/drops**

- Please include acute and repeat prescriptions if using SCI gateway
- Please include any treatment already supplied for this condition

### **Patient's wishes**

- If referring a patient for a procedure/surgery please include relevant information relating to patients wishes for surgery e.g. if a patient does not wish to have surgery please mention this in the letter.

### **History**

- Presenting complaint
- Right or left or both eyes
- Timing – How long has it been going on for?
- Pain – Socrates (Site, Onset, Character, Radiation, Associated features, Time course, Exacerbating/relieving features, Severity),
- Change in vision – central, peripheral, intermittent or permanent, sudden or gradual.
- Distortion (straight lines appear wavy)
- Flashing lights/floaters

- Itch
- Discharge
- Photophobia
- Diplopia
- Blurred vision
- Associated systemic features e.g. nausea/vomiting, fever, headache, weight loss

### **Examination**

- Vision – best corrected vision. Use glasses and pinhole.
- Visual fields to confrontation – can they see your whole face clearly? Can they count fingers accurately in all 4 quadrants?
- Pupils – direct, consensual, RAPD and size.
- Eyelids
- Conjunctiva
- Cornea – please use fluorescein
- Eye movements

### **Suspected diagnosis**

- What are your main concerns?