



▶ COMMISSIONING POLICIES

| o Issue3 | o May 2013



▶ DEVON ACCESS AND REFERRAL TEAM



▶ CLINICAL SUPERVISORS

Devon LOC

DEVON LOCAL OPTICAL COMMITTEE

REPRESENTING OPTOMETRISTS AND DISPENSING OPTICIANS IN DEVON

Chair's Introduction

How time flies! It has now been 12 months since the Committee were voted in at the 2012 LOC AGM.

I would like to thank the Committee for their hard work over the past 12 months. The input of the Committee has been crucial in the progress and decisions we have made this year. I am pleased with the progress we have made and look forward to the next 12 months. I would particularly like to thank Peter Noakes, Paul Bradford and Jacqueline Sandford for regularly attending the locality meetings with the Clinical Commissioning Groups (formally PCTs). These meetings are crucial in securing enhanced services for the future.

We had a good Devon LOC AGM on 15th May with in excess of 30 people in attendance. The minutes of the meeting are on the Devon LOC website and can be found [here](#). At the meeting we covered information on the recent

changes in the NHS along with the on-going work of the LOC and the accounts for 2012/13. The Devon LOC constitution was also ratified on the night. For the most up to date version of the constitution please click [here](#).

May I also remind you that the LOC is there to represent you so please do let us have any thoughts or suggestions of how we can best represent, our members.

Remember, we are the gatekeepers of eye care and the LOC are working hard on your behalf.

Charles Bill

Chairman – Devon LOC

LOC Committee

Chair: Charles Bill

Vice Chair: Peter Noakes

Secretary: Fiona Hiscox

Treasurer: Daniel Tabb

Committee Members:

Paul Bradford

Mark Bushby

Louise Frost

Max Halford

Eiohn Hayes

Ian Holten

Richard Hoyland

Nicki Pullen

Jacqueline Sandford

NOC 2013

NOC organised by the AOP for LOCSU & the Optical Confederation

Thursday 6th and Friday 7th November 2013

Hilton Metropole, Birmingham

The event provides an unrivalled opportunity to find out the latest news about enhanced eye services and to share knowledge and network with colleagues from around the country.

Click [here](#) for more information

Mark Bushby stands down as

Treasurer after 22 years!



The Committee would like to thank Mark for his 22 years as

Treasure of the

LOC. He has done a great job over the years and we acknowledge the time and effort he has put into this.

Daniel Tabb has kindly taken over the role of Treasurer.

Did you know?

Commissioning Policies for NHS Procedures

Did you know there are treatments of Ophthalmic Conditions that are not routinely funded by the NHS (Low Priority Procedures)? There are set policies in place for Blepharoplasty, Chalazion (Meibomian Cysts) and Benign Skin Lesions

The NHS must demonstrate that it is making the most effective use it can of public money to deliver quality healthcare. The aim of the policies are to set out an overview of those interventions or procedures considered to be of low clinical priority. The policies can be found on our website—click [here](#).

Blepharoplasty (Upper and Lower Lid) Including Brow Lift

Blepharoplasty (eye lid surgery) is regarded as a low priority procedure and is therefore not routinely funded by the NHS.

Blepharoplasty with and without brow lift will be funded when the following criteria are met:

- Impairment of visual fields in the relaxed, non-compensated state: Evidence will be required that eyelids impinge on visual fields,

reducing field to 120 degrees laterally and 40 degrees vertically.

- Correction of ectropion (eyelid turns outwards) or entropion (eyelid turns inwards towards the eye) with ocular irritation and causing functional implications.

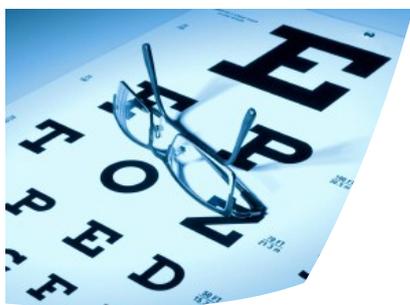
Private treatment

The average cost to have this procedure privately is approximately: £2,000 (Bilateral).

Exceptionality

To gain funding for Low Priority Procedures the patient must show exceptional. Commissioning, by its very nature, focusses on high level. However, it is recognised that every patient is an individual. In making a case for special consideration it needs to be demonstrated that:

- The patient is significantly different to the general population of patients with the condition in question, *and*
- The patient is likely to gain significantly more health benefit from the intervention than might be normally expected for patients with that condition.



Applications for exceptional treatment

Decisions regarding treatment is made by the Restricted Treatment Funding Panel which meets on a monthly basis.

All applications should be made in writing by the patients GP. If funding required patient is visit their GP.

Following the meeting of the panel, the decision will be conveyed to the requesting GP. It is the responsibility of the GP to convey the decision of the panel to the patient in a timely manner.

For more information click [here](#)

WOPEC TRAINING



We would like to remind you that the LOC now has codes to access all of the training provided by LOCSU/WOPEC. This is the self taught part of the training and is free of charge and available on the following areas:

- Cataract
- Glaucoma
- PEARS
- Low Vision

We would encourage you to make use of this training especially if you are hoping to be involved in enhanced services in the future. To get your code and instructions please email Jonathan Drew (jdrew@devonloc.co.uk) stating which codes you would like.

ADVANCED NOTICE

Devon LOC Study Day:

Friday 22nd November 2013



The Devon Access and Referral Team (DART) supports the quality and consistency of referrals in Devon, ensuring a smooth pathway for the patient into the correct service.

On Friday 7th June 2013 DART will be closed due to a premises move. All services will resume on Monday 10th June 2013.

For further information click [here](#)

DART EMAIL ADDRESS HAS CHANGED

The email address is now:

d-ccg.dartophthalmology@nhs.net

LOC Details

Jonathan Drew (Business Manager)
Devon Local Optical Committee
Deer Park Business Centre
Haldon Hill
Kennford
Exeter
EX6 7XX

www.devonloc.co.uk

 01392 834026 (10am—3pm)

 jdrew@devonloc.co.uk

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School of Health Professions—Optometry Supervisors

The Optometry Programme at Plymouth University has opened a state of the art clinic with the purpose of providing final year students with dedicated and specialised clinical experience. This modern clinic, the Centre of Eyecare Excellence (CEE), is located close to the main campus and the city centre and boasts 15 examination rooms including research rooms.

We are looking for dynamic and passionate Optometrists to help supervise our students in their final year. The post offers a great opportunity for those with a dedication to the professional development of both themselves and our next generation of Optometrists.

For an informal discussion contact Luisa Simo on 01752 588881 or email luisa.simo@plymouth.ac.uk

