



DEVON LOCAL OPTICAL COMMITTEE

GATEKEEPERS OF EYE CARE



Chairman's Introduction

The LOC have had a busy couple of months since our last newsletter with engagement with the local NHS and promoting eye health and regular sight testing as part of the National Eye Health Week 2015. We believe that we have been able to raise the profile and importance of eye health during Eye Health Week and thank everyone involved for their time and effort with this.

We have produced some important information and advice on GOS and claims. Devon LOC advises that ALL RECALLS should be 24 months unless you state a reason on your record card clearly marking your clinical reason for an early recall. Further information is available on our website [here](#).

The House of Commons Health Select Committee issued an inquiry into Primary Care in July – Devon LOC submitted a written response to this and we are meeting with Sarah Wollaston (Chair of the Health Select Committee) in November to discuss local Eye Care issues for Devon.

For the remaining 3 months of 2015 we will continue to negotiate on your behalf for further enhanced schemes across Devon including IOP refinement, Minor Eye Conditions and stable glaucoma monitoring and we will continue to engage with local MPs to help lobby eye care in Devon.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the LOC



NATIONAL EYE HEALTH WEEK
MONDAY 21 - SUNDAY 27 SEPTEMBER 2015
YOUR VISION MATTERS

As you are all aware National Eye Health Week 2015 took place last week.

Devon LOC were involved in this in the following ways:

- Stand at the Low Vision Awareness Day in Paignton
- Vision and Driving Awareness Day at the Plymouth Life Centre
- HIBLIO TV live broadcast on Children's Vision—if you missed the conversation see on catch up [here](#)
- Press releases to all Devon newspapers
- Article in the Devon Life Magazine—see [here](#)
- Reference to HIBLIO conversation in the Raconteur supplement in the Sunday Times on 20th September 2015—see [here](#)



Vision and Driving Awareness Day 2015

Part of National Eye Health Week 2015

Tuesday 22nd September 2015, 10am—4pm
Plymouth Life Centre, 40 Mayflower Drive,
Plymouth PL2 3DG

EY3 TEST

An eye examination does not just test vision but it can also help to uncover health related problems such as cataracts, age related macular degeneration and diabetes





DEVON LOC CET STUDY DAY

Places are still available for the Devon LOC CET Study Day on 20th November 2015

The cost of the day is £60 including 4 lectures, a choice of peer review or a communication workshop and a range of optical representatives.

For more information and booking form please click [here](#)

PRIMARY CARE PROVIDERS CALL FOR GREATER USE OF COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE

National Community Hearing Association, Optical Confederation and Pharmacy Voice unite for political party conferences.

The National Community Hearing Association (NCHA), Optical Confederation and Pharmacy Voice are calling for the NHS to make better use of community audiologists, opticians and pharmacy teams. The three organisations will be taking this message to the 2015 Labour and Conservative party conferences highlighting that primary care is far more than general practice.

In Devon we are planning to engage with our local MPs through practice visits. Our first MP is Sarah Wollaston on 27th November 2015. Sarah is Chair of the Health Select Committee in Westminster.



Don't forget that Devon LOC are active on Twitter—follow us to see LOC activities and national optical updates: @devonloc1

Devon Local Optical Committee: Representing, supporting and communicating with local contractors and performers to ensure, as gatekeepers of eyecare, effective delivery of Ophthalmic Services across the whole of Devon.

Devon Local Optical Committee

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Scan to view Website (QR)



LOCAL CET Events

- Devon LOC CET Study Day—Friday 20th November 2015
- North Devon CET Event—Wednesday 2nd December 2015 (7pm, Barnstable Hotel), Subject: DMO
- North Devon CET Event—Monday 14th March 2016 (Barnstable Hotel) - more information to follow
- Torbay and South Devon CET Event—Tuesday 15th March 2016 (Grand Hotel, Torquay) - more information to follow
- Devon LOC CET Study Day—Autumn 2016

Other CET/ Training Events

Topcon OCT Conference 2015 (2 Day CET Event). The two-day CET conference follows the successful Topcon Educational Symposia, which attracted in excess of 500 delegates over five months in 13 locations in the UK and Ireland. The national event is to be run by Topcon University and supported by some of the country's leading ophthalmic clinicians and Topcon University associates

For more information and booking click [here](#)



CLAIMING YOUR CET FUNDING

The increase in the CET grant has been agreed for 2014.

The payment, which is payable for CET undertaken in 2014, has risen to £535. This year the deadline for optometrists and ophthalmic medical practitioners to make their claims is 31st December 2015.



Department of Health

For more information and claims forms see the AOP website [here](#)



NHS MAIL FOR PATIENT REFERRALS

All practices across Devon are able to sign up to NHS Mail and use for all routine referrals through Devon Referral Support Services.

An example email address would be practicename@nhs.net

To see further information on this and the process to sign up for NHS Mail please click [here](#)

If you require any further information please contact Jonathan



Local vacancies are on the Devon LOC website here:

<http://www.devonloc.co.uk/advertisements>



Chair: Charles Bill (chair@devonloc.co.uk)

Vice Chair: Max Halford (max@devonloc.co.uk)

Secretary: Fiona Hiscox (secretary@devonloc.co.uk)

Treasurer: Daniel Tabb (treasurer@devonloc.co.uk)

Committee Members:

Nicola Burke, Mark Bushby, Josie Forte, Eiohn Hayes, Ian Holten, Greg Mann, Peter Noakes and Nicki Pullen

Business Manager: Jonathan Drew (jdrew@devonloc.co.uk)