



Devon Ophthalmology Referral Guidelines

Practitioners have 5 Referral route options.

Routes 1-4 routes can use the Devon Referral Support Services (DRSS) referral form – however Emergency referrals should be sent directly to the nearest A&E Department (with a copy of the referral form), not DRSS.

1 - Emergency referrals; to be seen within the next working day

2 & 3 - Wet AMD & Urgent referrals; to be seen between 2 days and 2 weeks from referral

4 - Routine ophthalmology referrals; to be seen as required by condition (over two weeks)

5 - Referral to the GP; for conditions that can be handled by the GP

1) Emergency referrals; to be seen within the next working day

(Emergency referrals should be sent directly to the nearest A&E Department rather than DRSS).

Emergency referral conditions are listed in Appendix 1

North Devon

- Contact North Devon District Hospital on 01271 322577 and ask for the on-call Ophthalmologist who will instruct you on what action to take.
- Fill in the referral form as completely as possible and mark as **Emergency**
- Give copy of the referral form to the patient to take with them to the Eye Department (or fax to the hospital on 01271 349106 if instructed by Ophthalmologist)
- Patient attends the A&E Department at the North Devon District Hospital

South Devon and Torbay

- Contact Torbay Hospital switchboard 01803 614567 and ask to speak to the on-call Ophthalmologist, who will instruct you on what action to take.
- Fill in the referral form as completely as possible and mark as **Emergency**
- Give copy of the referral form to the patient to take with them to the Eye Department (or fax to the hospital on 01803 655189)
- Patient to attend the A&E Department at Torbay Hospital

Exeter and East Devon

- Contact Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital Triage Nurse on 01392 402399 who will instruct you on what action to take.
- Fill in the referral form as completely as possible and mark as **Emergency**
- Give copy of the referral form to the patient to take with them to the Eye Department (or fax to the hospital on 01392 402313)



- Patient attends the A&E Department at the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital

Plymouth, South Hams and West Devon and East Cornwall

- Contact Plymouth Hospitals Trust Ophthalmology Emergency Triage on 01752 439330 or 01752 439331 and ask for the on-call Ophthalmologist who will instruct you on what action to take.
- Fill in the referral form as completely as possible and mark as **Emergency**
- Give copy of the referral form to the patient to take with them to the Eye Department.

2/3) Wet AMD & Urgent referrals to be seen between 2 days and 2 weeks from referral

Urgent referral conditions are listed in Appendix 2

- Fill in the referral form as completely as possible and mark as **Wet AMD or Urgent**
- Fax the referral form to DRSS on 01626 883772 (to contact DRSS by telephone use 01626 883888 – DRSS Helpdesk)
- Alternatively you can email the form:
 - a. D-CCG.drss-admin@nhs.net (using NHS Mail only)
- The patient will be contacted within 3 working days to arrange an appointment, but please also give them a DRSS Info-card or Pink sheet as a safety net.

4) Routine ophthalmology referrals to be seen as required by condition (over two weeks)

- Complete the referral form as fully as possible and mark as **Routine**.
- Give the patient the DRSS Info-card or Pink sheet.
- Send the referral form to DRSS
 - Email: D-CCG.drss-admin@nhs.net (only using NHS email address)
 - Fax: 01626 883772.
 - Post: DRSS, Bridge House, Brunel Industrial Estate, Collet Way, Newton Abbot, Devon, TQ12 4PH.
- You can contact DRSS by telephone using the following number: 01626 883888 (DRSS Helpdesk).
- Patient contacts DRSS in 5 days to arrange an appointment at a time and place of their choosing.

5) Referral to the GP for conditions that can be handled by the GP

- Complete the referral form as fully as possible
- Fax or send the referral directly to the patients GP (using GOS 18 or letter)