

# Worcestershire Local Optical Committee

From the Chair and the Clinical Governance Lead

**From Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

**All Routine Ophthalmology referrals to be sent directly to CHEC  
via nhs.net mail, at [c.hec@nhs.net](mailto:c.hec@nhs.net).**

6<sup>th</sup> March 2023

Dear Colleagues

Further to this evening's meeting we can confirm that all routine ophthalmology referrals for patient's 16 yrs old and over who are registered with a GP in Worcestershire should be directed to CHEC Ltd using secure nhs.net to nhs.net communication. The address for CHEC is [c.hec@nhs.net](mailto:c.hec@nhs.net). Operose Health are not accepting any new referrals.

Routine referrals for patients, aged 16 or over, who are registered with the Herefordshire border GP practices in Colwall, Cradley or Ledbury may also be sent directly to CHEC.

Where a patient is seen in Worcestershire but their GP is outside of Worcestershire (apart from Colwall, Cradley and Ledbury) then any non-urgent referrals must be directed to the patient's GP.

Please note that if the patient does not have a GP then the patient may be referred to a private ophthalmology service of their own choice, where the patient will be expected to pay a fee. If the patient wishes to be seen under the NHS then the patient may contact NHSE for advice. In the case of the latter the optometrist should make a note of this in their record and direct the patient to seek contact with NHSE via the Government NHSE website.

All Emergency, Urgent, Wet ARMD, Paediatric, Cataract and YAG referrals should continue to be sent to the appropriate Worcestershire (WHAT) nhs.net e-mail address.

Yours sincerely

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*Jim*

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James Osborne

Chair

Clinical Governance Lead

Worcestershire Local Optical Committee