

Referral Pathways North Essex CCG

Patients with a GP in: Brightlingsea, Clacton, Colchester, Fingringhoe, Frinton, Harwich, Manningtree, Marks Tey, Mersea, Rowhedge, St Osyth, Tendring, Tiptree, Walton on the Naze, West Bergholt, West Mersea & Wivenhoe

Condition	Form	Referral Method
Sight Threatening Emergency	GOS 18/ LOC Referral form	<p>Fax a referral letter to the Eye Clinic at Primary Care Centre on 01206 286850. Alternatively, if you have NHS mail, email to chu-ftr.eyereferurgent@nhs.net. Phone 01206 286882 for confirmation of receipt.</p> <p>Emergency clinics run Monday to Friday 8:30 - 16:30, and later in the ward 16:30 - 19:00 Monday to Friday, plus Saturday and Sunday 11:00 - 15:00pm. After 16:30, phone Colchester General Hospital switchboard 01206 747474 and ask for "Ophthalmologist on call".</p> <p>Referral to A & E is inappropriate as there are limited eye skills and many patients are referred onto the eye clinic.</p> <p>Out of hours emergency alternatives: Ipswich Hospital, out of clinic hours phone 01473 712234 for Ophthalmologist on call. Fax 01473 703838.</p> <p>Moorfields, give letter to patient and send to Moorfields</p> <p>Addenbrookes A&E will contact their Ophthalmologist on call.</p>
Life Threatening Emergency	GOS 18/ LOC Referral form	Send referral letter with patient to A&E at Colchester General Hospital, CO4 5JL.
Urgent	GOS 18/ LOC Referral form	As per sight threatening referrals. Phone & Fax the eye clinic (see above) Refer via referral management service (Evolutio) all urgents other than suspect Wet AMD
Routine	NE Essex referral form / GOS 18 / Referral management centre	Use the referral management service (Evolutio): either NHS email to LCHevolutio@nhs.net or On-line portal or FAX 03332407729 then phone 02037807860, 24 hours later for delivery confirmation. Evolutio have to obtain the PHMx before the referral is forwarded. State patient choice for routine referrals.
IOP >23	NE Essex referral form / GOS 18 / Referral management centre	IOP >23 mmHg NCT and no other obvious signs of glaucoma. Refer direct to local GRR [Glaucoma Referral Refinement] Optometrist, See LOC website. Or via Evolutio.

IOP >23<30mmHg	Contact NE referral Form	If other signs of open angle glaucoma present this cannot be sent via GRR pathway. Refer as 'Routine', either via GP or Evolutio.
MECS	LOC Referral Form / GOS 18 / Referral management centre	See list of conditions and practitioners on LOC website. MECS practices triage patients and accelerate referrals if needed. http://primary-eyecare.co.uk/enhanced-optometric-services.php
Paediatrics	GOS 18/ LOC Referral form	Patient can be referred to one of practices on list found at http://primary-eyecare.co.uk/enhanced-optometric-services.php .
Wet AMD	GOS 18/ LOC Referral form	For reduced / change of sight, visible macular changes and haemorrhage. Refer as sight threatening emergency.
Cataract	Check SRP	Local criteria means patients need to have a VA of 6/12 or less and not NICE criteria. Include patient's smoking status in the referral or it will be returned. Referral as 'Routine', either through via GP or Evolutio.
Post Op Cataract Service	Printed form after completion of Optomanager form	Emergency referrals: speak to on call Ophthalmologist as above.

In all cases you should choose the best referral pathway for your patient.

GOS 18 available on LOC website at: <http://essex-loc.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/GOS18-Electronic-Final.pdf>

Emergencies & most urgents are managed at the Eye Clinic, 1st floor, Primary Care Centre, Turner Road, Colchester, CO7 6TR.

Avoid parking at Colchester General Hospital if possible. At present OCT, YAG, Diabetic laser, anti-VEGF injections, and surgery are only at Colchester.