

Service Summary

North East Essex

Post-Cataract Service

Service Information

Aims

- Utilise the skills of primary care optometrists in the care of patients who have undergone uncomplicated cataract surgery and have no other active pathology.
- Improve the patient journey by reducing the number of patient visits overall and to include as few visits to secondary care as possible.
- Collecting consistent high quality clinical outcome data for audit purposes and improved patient outcomes.

Accreditation

WOPEC online cataract module (course code are available from Essex LOC).

Service Specifications

- Practices will contact patients within 48 hours of transfer from the surgical provider, to arrange a post-op examination and refraction (GOS for those eligible).
- Patients to be seen within 4-6 weeks post-surgery
- Review progress and medication compliance.
- Measure and collect Visual Acuity (with and without pinhole), residual refraction, and impact of surgery on quality of life (UK National Minimum Cataract Data set).
- Binocular indirect ophthalmoscopy including pupil dilation and onward referral where co-existing eye disease is detected.
- Identify any complications after surgery and prompt referral to specialist ophthalmologist services where required.
- Discuss the patient's satisfaction with the outcome of surgery.
- Discuss second eye surgery with onward referral where appropriate, ensuring the patient meets the local cataract surgery policy.

Patients who are not suitable for the service:

- Complications during their cataract surgery or identified as having post-op complications within the first 24 hours.
- Those who have had cataract surgery by a private provider not funded by the NHS.

Help and Support

Contact your local clinical lead or hello@referral.support.

Full pathway information available on <https://help.optom-referrals.org/article/376-cataract-pathway-protocols>.

