



Scottish GOS Regulations

Following consultation with Optometry Scotland, the Scottish Government Health Department has published revised GOS regulations. The AOP is publishing this *Practitioner's Guide* to what the new regulations mean for optometrists practising north of the Border

Primary Eye Examination Frequencies should now only be undertaken in line with set frequencies (see reverse for these frequencies) – all examinations between the Primary examinations are, by definition, Supplementaries. There are three exceptions to this rule:

- Where a patient attends for an eye examination no more than 4 weeks before the next Primary is due (in other words, four weeks early – no code needed for this)
- Where a patient is new to a practice and the optometrist does not have access to the patient's records (Code 7).
- Patients aged 15-16: patients who have received a Primary examination aged 15 are entitled to another Primary after a year – when they will be 16 (code 8)

A change to note is:

- Patients who are approaching 60: if a 59 year old has a Primary, he is not entitled to his next Primary for two years, when he will be 61. This despite the fact that 60 year olds are entitled to an annual Primary.

Supplementary Examinations All other necessary examinations taking place between the Primary Eye Examinations (at the set intervals) are supplementary examinations and should be coded appropriately (see reverse for codes).

Supplementary examinations are usually undertaken on a separate day from the Primary (where on the same day the reasons must be noted in the records), except in the case of cycloplegic refraction or of dilating someone under 60 for fundus examination.

Primary Examination Changes:

- A visual field assessment is now a part of every primary examination.
- Automated visual fields are now only required on everyone over 60 at their first visit and thereafter as clinically necessary
- Every primary examination on someone over 60 should include dilated biomicroscopy.

Record-Keeping Changes:

- Electronic images need a backup - either electronically or by printing

The batch number and expiry date of all drugs used must be kept - either in the patient record or a logbook.

More details of the new regulations can be found by visiting this site:

www.uk-legislation.hmsso.gov.uk/legislation/scotland/s-201000 and scrolling to SSI No. 86

Set Frequencies for Primary Eye Examinations

Category of Patient	Frequency
Aged under 16	Annually
Aged 16-59	Every 2 years
Aged 60 or over	Annually
Patients with glaucoma	Annually
Over 40 with close family history of glaucoma (father, mother, brother, sister, son, daughter)	Annually
Patients with OHT (as defined by NICE:- IOPs 22 mmHg or over)	Annually
Diabetics	Annually

Supplementary codes

Code	Condition/examination
2.0	Cycloplegic refraction following primary examination
2.1	Paediatric follow-up
2.2	Referral refinement / repeat or follow-up procedures
2.3	Suspect glaucoma
2.4	<60 dilation and biomicroscopy
2.5	Anterior segment disorder
2.6	Cycloplegic refraction at request of hospital
2.7	Postoperative cataract examination
2.8	Reduced acuity, sudden vision loss, flashes and floaters or neurological symptoms – requires sight test, macular assessment and slit lamp biomicroscopy (possible mydriasis)

Fees

£45	primary eye examinations for those aged 60 and over where a digital photo is taken
£40	primary eye examinations for those aged 60 and over where no digital photo is taken
£37	primary eye examinations for those aged under 60
£21.50	Supplementary

Voucher Values remain the same as 2009/2010