



SUFFOLK OPTOMETRIC DIRECT REFERRAL FOR CATARACTS PROTOCOL

The Suffolk Direct Referral of Cataract Patients is to run on the following lines:-

- All Optometrists and Ophthalmic Medical Practitioners (OMPs) on an Ophthalmic List are invited to participate.
- Practitioners wishing to participate in Cataract Referral **MUST** attend one of the annual Cataract Tutorial meetings. These are mandatory for Practitioners already participating in the scheme and is a good opportunity to keep updated on referral criteria and ask questions
- Referrals of the participating Optometrists will be monitored (Clinical Audit) to ensure efficiency of the system and to identify educational requirements.
- A fee of £40 will be paid to each individual practitioner for pre & post operative cataract care (having already attended one of the launch meetings and clinic sessions) and confirms agreements to participate in clinical audit. £20.00 for referral and £20.00 for the post op check. If a cataract patient has their post op care done under the hospital, for whatever reason, a fee of £20.00 will be paid to the practitioner for initial referral.
- Only patients whose GP surgery is in Suffolk can be referred under the Direct Cataract Scheme.
- The participating Optometrist refers direct under the scheme only those patients who are visually affected and want surgery.