

Dear Colleague

GENERAL OPHTHALMIC SERVICES FEEDBACK TO OPTOMETRISTS ON REFERRALS

Summary

1. This letter reminds NHS Boards of the need for secondary care ophthalmology departments to always provide meaningful feedback to optometrists on referrals, copied to the patient's GP. In cases where it is decided that the patient does not need to be seen, this feedback should be provided within two weeks of the referral into secondary care.

2. This expectation is in line with an agreement between the Royal College of Ophthalmologists and the College of Optometrists in March 2015 and subsequent statement which was issued to their respective members. A link to this statement is included below:

<https://www.rcophth.ac.uk/2015/03/sharing-patient-information-between-healthcare-professionals-a-joint-statement-from-the-royal-college-of-ophthalmologists-and-college-of-optometrists/>

15 June 2016

Addresses

For action

Chief Executives, NHS Boards

For information

PC Leads
Chair of Scottish Optometric
Advisors Group

Enquiries to:

Calum Drummond
Primary Care Division
1st Floor East Rear
St Andrew's House
EDINBURGH
EH1 3DG

Tel: 0131-244 4040

[NHSgeneralophthalmicservicesma
ilbox@gov.scot](mailto:NHSgeneralophthalmicservicesmailbox@gov.scot)

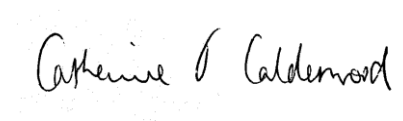
Action

3. NHS Boards are asked to note this information and copy and make the memorandum to this letter available to all GP's, optometrists, ophthalmic medical practitioners and ophthalmologists in their board area.

Yours sincerely



Richard Foggo
Deputy Director
Head of Primary Care Division



Dr Catherine Calderwood
Chief Medical Officer