

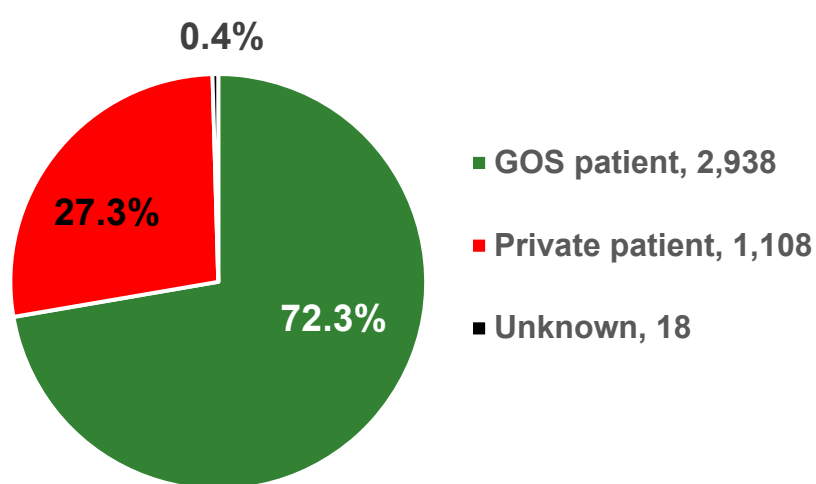
2020 SIGHT TEST AND OPHTHALMIC PUBLIC HEALTH SURVEY

All optometry practices in Northern Ireland were invited to participate in a 1 week survey of all sight tests carried out during 10th to 16th February 2020. Surveys could be carried out electronically or using a paper copy.

Between 39% and 45% of the practices in each LCG took part.

113 optometry practices participated in the survey; a response rate of 41.7% from all 271 invited practices.

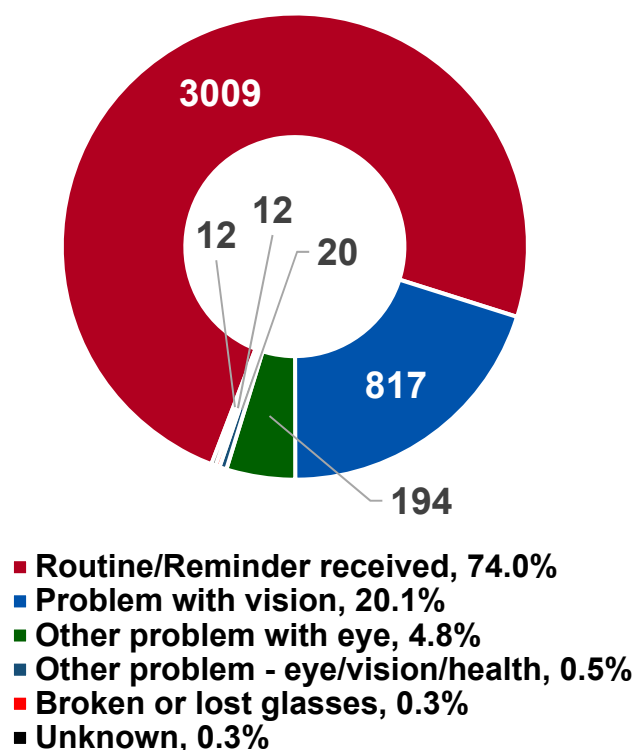
There were 4,064 completed surveys – 72.3% were for GOS sight tests, 27.3% were for Private sight tests and 0.4% were unknown.



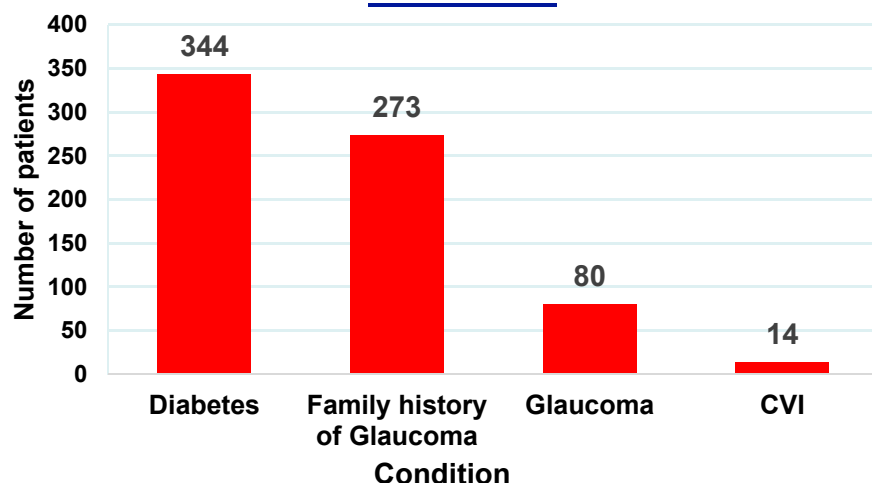
Spectacles or contact lenses were prescribed in 2,930 (72.1%) of the sight tests reported on.

71.1% of examinations which resulted in spectacles or contact lenses being prescribed were for GOS patients, while 28.4% were for Private patients.

Reason for attendance at sight test

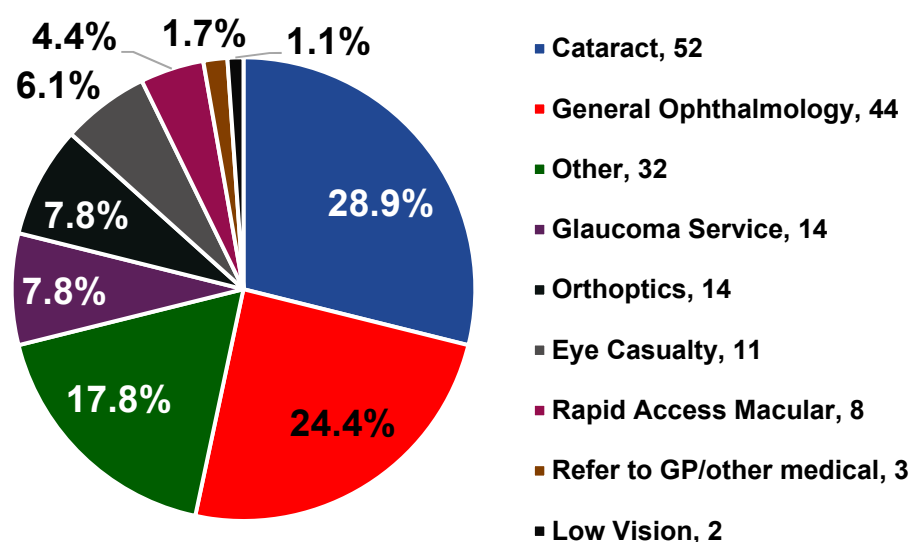


Presence of medical and ophthalmic conditions



(Patients may have multiple conditions)

180 patients (4.4%) were referred to secondary care – the top 2 referral reasons were Cataracts (28.9%) and General Ophthalmology (24.4%). A large number of referrals were made for 'Other' reasons and have been grouped for presentation purposes.

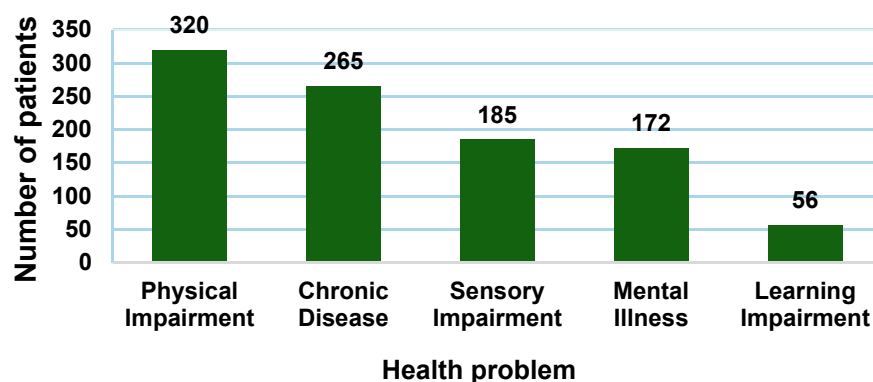


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479 (11.8%) patients' day to day activities were limited because of a health problem or disability which had lasted, or is expected to last, at least 12 months.

Numbers with particular health problems are shown below.

Health problems in sight test patients



(Patients may have more than one health problem)