







Equipment for Use in Mobile (Domiciliary) Ophthalmic Services (GOS)

Guidance for Providers, Practitioners, Primary Care Trusts, Local Health Boards, Local and Area Optometric Committees

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It is matter of principle that citizens, who are unable to leave home unaccompanied, should not suffer discrimination and should have access to the same high standards of eyecare as those attending a high street practice. To be listed by a Primary Care Trust or Local Health Board as a provider of mobile ophthalmic services, optometrists must have suitable equipment.

The table below lists the tasks that a practitioner providing mobile ophthalmic services would normally be expected to perform and examples of equipment that would be suitable. These examples are for illustrative purposes only. They are not mandatory. For instance, optometrists may use alternative equipment to perform the same tasks, and some equipment can be used for more than one task. There will also be cases, in which it will not be appropriate or possible to carry out all the tasks listed below, because of a patient's disability. Similarly, some optometrists may provide additional services and equipment.

Task	Examples of equipment	Notes
External	Small light source and	In some instances, stains may
examination of the	magnification	be required, e.g. fluorescein +
eye		saline
Internal	Direct ophthalmoscope or	In some instances, dilation may
examination of the	Indirect ophthalmoscope or	be required, e.g. using
eye	Portable digital imaging system	tropicamide drops.
Refraction	Distance test chart and near	
	vision tests, and tape measure	
	plus	
	Retinoscope or	
	Portable auto-refractor	
	plus	
	Trial lenses, trial frame and	
	accessories	
Oculo Motor	Distance and near oculo motor	
Balance / motility	balance tests	
	plus	
	Suitable targets and occluder	
Intra ocular	Tonometer	Some tonometers require
pressure		anaesthesia and stains, e.g.
		benoxinate and fluorescein.
		Those that come into contact
		with the eye require either
		disposable heads or suitable
		sterilising.
Visual fields	Means of checking peripheral	
	and central visual fields	
Identification and	Focimeter or	The power of the patient's
measurement of	Equipment for hand	current specs should be read to
current spectacles	neutralisation	see whether they need to be
		updated, or further investigations
		are required.