

To: All Community Pharmacies

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2nd April 2020

Dear Colleague

ESSENTIAL AND URGENT PRIMARY EYECARE

All routine General Ophthalmic Services have been suspended due to the current COVID-19 pandemic. This means routine sight tests and eye examinations are no longer being provided by optometry practices.

All domiciliary eyecare services are also similarly suspended.

The majority of practices are offering a reduced level of service for only essential and urgent eyecare. This may be a telephone/email advice service or virtual consultation, in conjunction with a drop-off postal service for spectacle repairs.

HSC Board is working with primary eyecare providers to continue to provide NI PEARS urgent eyecare, individually or within locality "clusters". If a patient has an urgent eyecare problem, ask them to contact their own optometrist via phone for advice.


For the current list of NIPEARS provider practices click on link:
<http://www.hscboard.hscni.net/eyes/>

Given the nature of the current situation things are changing rapidly so if you have any additional queries do not hesitate to contact ophthalmic services at HSCB via Ophthalmic.Services@hscni.net

Yours sincerely



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