

OPHTHALMIC SERVICES

ZOOM EVENING FEEDBACK

Thank you for taking the time to log into the HSCB Ophthalmic Services online session about changes to RAES (Eye Casualty) and how COVID -19 is affecting practice on Tuesday 2nd June 2020.

We had a “full house” in respect of capacity which was good but apologies for those who tried to join later and couldn’t access it. It is the same principle as for our face to face events, first come first served basis with upper limit for that zoom meeting of 300 participants. We will however review the license details and see if any future events can accommodate any more people.

The event was not recorded as much of the information may change going forward so having a recording could give misinformation as things move on and COVID restrictions change

The questions received were very similar in many respects from a lot of you so we have themed the responses.

1. **Provision of private ophthalmic services.** The presentation, as also in the work of HSCB/BSO, is related to GOS and enhanced services only. We do not manage private activity so cannot comment on this type of work. Please however refer to the relevant College of Optometrist Guidance and GOC Standards of Practice as this applies to all forms of activity.
2. **RAES questions:**
 - **Feedback on referrals.** Feedback from RAES is being explored. We are aware that the IT system used in RAES does not show up on NIECR and ways around this are under consideration.
 - **Contacting when Eye Casualty closed e.g. on a Sunday.** Depending on which service you normally use ing either the RVH or Altnagelvin main switchboard and ask to speak to the ophthalmologist on call.
3. **IOP measurements requested by secondary care during the pandemic.** This has been addressed and you probably will have read how these should be managed in the latest Optometry COVID-19 bulletin
[http://www.hscbusiness.hscni.net/pdf/Optomerty%20COVID-19%20Bulletin%20No%207%20%20\(6%20June%202020\).pdf](http://www.hscbusiness.hscni.net/pdf/Optomerty%20COVID-19%20Bulletin%20No%207%20%20(6%20June%202020).pdf)
4. **NIPEARS service specification.** The framework and specifications for NIPEARS are currently being reviewed and any changes will be communicated with you in due course.
5. **Provision of optometry IP placements.** This is under review with the DOH and the local HSC Trusts but given the current COVID-19 restrictions any updates on this are likely to be delayed.