



COVID-19: latest updates

Welcome to the latest College update. This week, as well as the latest news on the role of optometrists during COVID-19, we focus on the resources we have developed to help you support patients at this time.

COVID-19 Urgent Eyecare Service (CUES) in England

NHS England has provided guidance on a COVID-19 Urgent Eyecare Service delivered from a network of optical practices, acting as urgent eye care hubs, to support the immediate and recovery phase of the COVID-19 pandemic. We have worked collaboratively with the Royal College of Ophthalmologists to develop and endorse the clinical pathways at the heart of this new service. [Read our statement.](#)

IP exam update

Following the cancellation of the TCFA IP exam on 1 April, we have been working hard to find a solution to run the exam remotely, while still ensuring its integrity. This week we offered candidates the opportunity to sit the exam online for the first time in early May, just over 6 weeks from when the original, cancelled exam was scheduled. For now, this sitting is **only** available to those who were due to sit the exam on 1 April. If you are one of these candidates and haven't already been in touch, [contact us now](#). We hope to announce arrangements for future online IP exams in the coming weeks.

Updated COVID-19 FAQs

We have updated our [COVID-19 FAQs](#) and will continue to do so throughout the pandemic.

Patient information and support during lockdown

Our growing range of resources will ensure that you can provide the best possible patient care during these uncertain times. Read on to find out more.

Home visual acuity (VA) chart

We have developed an easy-to-use [visual acuity \(VA\) chart and instructional video](#) to allow patients with printer access to provide an approximate measurement

of their visual acuity ahead of a remote consultation. Patients can find these resources, alongside other COVID-19 guidance, on lookafteryoureyes.org.

Guidance on conducting remote consultations

Are you conducting consultations over the phone or via video call? We've put together some [temporary guidelines](#) to help you.

Patient information during lockdown

You can download copies of our leaflets to help you reach out to patients at this time. [Fill in our form](#) to receive PDF versions to use during lockdown. You can also link your practice website to the condition pages on lookafteryoureyes.org.

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