

# News Release

## Immediate release



## CATARACT ENHANCED SERVICES BOOSTED BY NEW TRAINING MODULES FROM LOCSU

Optometrists wishing to participate in new or existing local enhanced services for cataract referral refinement and post-operative follow up will be able to easily refresh their clinical knowledge thanks to a new training module developed by Local Optical Committees Support Unit (LOCSU) and Wales Optometry Postgraduate Education Centre (WOPEC).

The distance learning programme comprises 4 lectures and a video, available on CD Rom, and has been accredited with 10 CET points. The module addresses all potential aspects of cataract pathways from identifying different types of cataract to possible complications from surgery and includes all the necessary information and paperwork about the LOCSU pathway.

Once candidates have completed each lecture they simply upload their MCQ answers to the WOPEC web page ([www.wopec.co.uk](http://www.wopec.co.uk)) for verification. A visual recognition and identification of clinical signs (VRICS) assessment is also available.

Katrina Venerus, Director of Operations and Commissioning at LOCSU said,

“ This training package developed to complement the LOCSU cataract pathways will provide welcome support for Local Optical Committees (LOCs) when it comes to both the negotiation of new enhanced services and the renegotiation of existing schemes. By continuing to invest in easily accessible products developed by renowned clinical authorities such as WOPEC, LOCSU is giving practitioners the opportunity to maintain the most up to date knowledge and skills, allowing LOCs to provide reassurances on clinical standards to commissioners.”

Dr Barbara Ryan, Co-Director, Wales Optometry Postgraduate Education Centre said,

“This comprehensive course will give optical professionals the skills they need to ensure that the LOCSU developed enhanced local cataract pathways are successful. “

To obtain access to the training, LOCs should contact Jacque Hudson, LOCSU Office Manager, at [jacquehudson@locs.co.uk](mailto:jacquehudson@locs.co.uk) or 0207 202 8156.

Any optometrist whose LOC is not a member of LOCSU should contact Katrina Venerus at [katrinavenerus@locs.co.uk](mailto:katrinavenerus@locs.co.uk)

**Ends**

#### Notes to editors

- This training has been organised by the Local Optical Committee Support Unit in conjunction with WOPEC. The Local Optical Committee Support Unit provides support and expertise to Local and Regional Optical Committees across England and Wales to help them to develop, negotiate and implement local objectives in respect of primary eye care services.

#### Media enquiries

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