Glaucoma Referral Refinement Policies and Protocols

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Chairman, Central Mersey Local Optical Committee

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GRR Service

▸ Purpose

  ▸ To refine referrals for glaucoma

  ▸ To reduce false positive referrals in to secondary care

  ▸ To manage suitable patients within the community

  ▸ Increase accessibility and reduce waiting times

  ▸ 75% deflection

Pathway: LOCSU 1a

- LOCSU 1a: Goldmann style applanation tonometry (GAT) repeat readings (£25)
- Identified as having IOP>21mmHg and no other signs of glaucoma with NCT / Rebound:
  - Optic Discs healthy
  - Fields normal
  - No acute symptoms
- Immediate Applanation Tonometry (Goldmann or Perkins)

‣ Outcomes

1 – IOP normal – patient discharged

2 - IOP>31mmHg – patient referred

3 – IOP 22-31 proceed to Part 2

4 – IOP difference >5mmHg proceed to Part 2

Pathway: LOCSU 1a

▸ Part 2 - Second AT repeat within 4 weeks.

Patients who need to be referred for OHT diagnosis

Age group	<65 years	65-79 years	80+ years
Pressure	>21mmHg	>24mmHg	>25mmHg

Pathway: LOCSU 1a

▸ Patients who can be directly referred to OHT monitoring service

Age group	65-79 years	80+ years
Pressure	22-24mmHg	22-25mmHg

▸ Joint RCOphth/Coptom's advice suggest an optometrist might "consider not referring" as under NICE guidelines they will never need treatment. Patients still need monitoring to pick up any signs of progression towards COAG. It is not appropriate to monitor under GOS

▸ NICE CG85 1.5.6 monitor these patients as having diagnosed OHT. College's advice constitutes the establishment of a "management plan"

▸ Part 2 Repeat AT within 4 weeks. (£25)

▸ IOP>21mmg – patient referred.

▸ Repeat IOP's maintain a consistent difference in pressure over 5mmHg, practitioners may wish to consider whether referral appropriate or reasonable explanation (e.g. Surgery to one eye)

Pathway: LOCSU 1b

▸ LOCSU 1b : Visual Field repeat readings (£35)

▸ Patient has passed Level 1

▸ Patients identified as having suspicious VF's which may be glaucomatous during sight test will have repeat on separate occasion within 4 weeks

▸ Supra-threshold or Threshold

▸ Report printed

▸ FDT is excluded

OUTCOMES

1 – Visual Field normal – patient discharged

2 – Visual Field defect confirmed – patient referred.

Primary Eyecare
Mersey
Glaucoma Repeat Readings Service

▸ LOCSU 1c – Patients referred from other or non-participating practices (£55)

▸ Second optometrist assumes clinical responsibility for detection of glaucoma/OHT

▸ Applanation Tonometry (Goldmann or Perkins)

▸ Visual Fields

  ▸ Supra-threshold or Threshold

  ▸ Report printed

  ▸ FDT is excluded

▸ Disc Assessment, ideally with Volk lens

OUTCOMES

1 – No sign of Glaucoma – patient discharged

2 – Suspicion of Glaucoma confirmed – patient referred

▸ Referring practice receives a report via the Webstar software

Referrals

▸ **Routine Referrals** to the chosen provider via the software. There are text boxes for additional information.

▸ Copy sent to GP

▸ **Urgent Referrals** should be made in the usual way

▸

Other Indications

Suspicious optic nerve head found at GOS or private ST – refer directly as per normal protocols.

Narrow Angle found at GOS or private ST – refer directly as per normal protocols.

Key Points

‣ Everything is done via the IT platform

‣ You need a record yourself

  ‣ You can use the IT system

  ‣ Fill details into the text box

  ‣ Print a record

Key Points

▸ Clinical Governance and Accreditation requirements.

▸ Activity and deflection will be monitored for outliers.

▸ PECM will report back to the CCGs quarterly.

Key Performance Indicators

▸ Patients seen within 4 weeks. 90%

▸ Patient Experience test completed F&F 40%

▸ Satisfaction Results Likely or Very Likely 90%

Money

▸ PECM Ltd receives

   ▸ £9 per episode

▸ Costs include

   ▸ Company insurance

   ▸ Company accounts / filing

   ▸ Data registration / IG toolkit / etc.

   ▸ Reporting to CCG

   ▸ Monitoring Service and supporting practices

   ▸ Management of the service

Money

Webstar

- Data collection
- Audit data
- Software and ongoing support
- Payment processing

Policies & Protocols

‣ On the LOC website:

   ‣ **http://www.centralmerseyloc.org/glaucoma-referral-refinement/**

   ‣ Webstar tutorial

   ‣ Pathway

   ‣ Complaints policy

   ‣ Various policies