



The ROYAL COLLEGE of
OPHTHALMOLOGISTS

Postgraduate Medical Training

Research and Scholarship syllabus

OST Curriculum domain

The Royal College of Ophthalmologists is a registered charity in England and Wales (299872) and in Scotland (SC045652)

Level 1	
Learning Outcome	Descriptors
<i>An ophthalmologist achieving this level will:</i>	
Adopt an evidence-based approach to clinical practice.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand GMC guidance on good practice in research. Understand the difference between audit and research. Understand some of the following areas: research ethics, research design, literature / database searching, evidence appraisal skills, statistical approaches, funding for research. Demonstrate an understanding of the audit process (for example, by undertaking an audit).
Critically appraise existing published research.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand principles of qualitative, quantitative, bio-statistical and epidemiological research methods. Demonstrate an understanding of the audit process (for example, by undertaking an audit).
Understand research and deliver oral presentations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least one presentation to local postgraduate teaching / Journal Club. At least one research presentation at a regional meeting.

Level 2	
Learning Outcome	Descriptors
<i>An ophthalmologist achieving this level will, in addition:</i>	
Implement an evidence-based approach to shared decision making and enhancing patient outcomes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrate understanding of principle qualitative, quantitative, bio-statistical and epidemiological research methods. Identify a research question relevant to clinical practice and undertake a literature review to identify what is known on the topic. Demonstrate ability to scientifically review a subject and communicate the methodology and results in a written form to peers.
Demonstrate competencies for commencing clinical research.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collect evidence for portfolio that demonstrates ability to apply knowledge encompassing research ethics, research design, literature/database searching, evidence appraisal skills, statistical approaches, funding for research.
Understand research, deliver poster	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrate an understanding of critical appraisal (for example, by critically appraising a published clinical trial).

presentations and improve oral presenting.

Level 3

Learning Outcome

Descriptors

An ophthalmologist achieving this level will, in addition:

Implement service improvement by revision and development of guidelines, treatments and practical procedures using current clinical research and contemporary evidence.

- Acquire additional research skills relevant to own clinical or research interests.
- Develop and commence a research study to address research question identified at Level 2.

Lead research / teaching sessions and critically appraise oral presentations.

- Chair and organise local postgraduate teaching at least once.
- Give formative feedback to presenters at above session.

Level 4

Learning Outcome

Descriptors

An ophthalmologist achieving this level will, in addition:

Understand the principles of research methods, research governance, application of ethics to research and the translation of research into practice.

- Apply advanced knowledge of principles of qualitative, quantitative, bio-statistical and epidemiological research methods.
- Apply involvement in research governance and research ethics applications, e.g. Health Research Authority and Research Ethics Committee (REC) for a clinical research project.
- Apply adherence to GMC and other guidance on ethical conduct in research and consent for research.
- Apply service improvement by revision/development of guidelines based on contemporary clinical research/evidence and own research.

Promote innovation in ophthalmology.

- Have undertaken evidence review to inform own research.
- Continue own research to completion – producing peer-reviewed papers as first or lead author is one way to demonstrate competence.
- Demonstrate collaboration and participation in research led by others.