



**The ROYAL COLLEGE of  
OPHTHALMOLOGISTS**

OST Curriculum 2024

## **Level 3 Learning Outcomes and descriptors**

Patient Management Domain

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

## Oculoplastics and Orbit (i)

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### Level 3

#### Learning Outcome

#### Descriptors

*An ophthalmologist achieving this level will, in addition:*

**Independently assess and manage moderate complexity patients, demonstrating an understanding of oculoplastics procedures and selecting the most appropriate treatment according to current accepted practice.**

- Understand and apply knowledge of medicine and surgery relevant to oculoplastic practice, to make diagnoses and recommend a management plan.
- Be informed by the patient's unique medical, psychological and social circumstances.
  
- Understand the tests and imaging techniques that might be helpful in deciding about and guiding treatment.
- Use with accuracy and efficiency instruments available to assess the patient, including the exophthalmometer.
- Be competent in performing a sac wash-out (syrringing) and be able to fully interpret the findings including assessment of the level of blockage with a probe.
  
- Implement a detailed management plan to include care from triage to discharge from care.
- Acknowledge and follow relevant guidelines or protocols.
- Practise in line with the latest evidence.
- Understand the indications, risks and limitations of surgery and identify patients for whom these treatments would be appropriate.
- Involve the patient, and where appropriate, their carer, partner or relatives, in the choices about their care and enable them to express their informed consent.
- Share decision-making by providing patients with appropriate and comprehensible information, prioritising the patient's wishes and respecting the patient's beliefs, concerns and expectations.
- Communicate the uncertainty of options in a manner that patients will understand.
- Manage difficult or challenging conversations.
- Develop situational awareness and an understanding of the impact of cultural and social issues.
- Enable patient self-management where possible.

- Understand and apply knowledge of clinical genetics relevant to oculoplastic and orbital conditions.
- Advise patients about patterns of inheritance and recognise when it is appropriate to refer a patient for genetic counselling.
- Recognise when it is important to offer a consultation with family members.
- Recognise when a patient has had or is developing a complication or side effect from treatment and be able to manage this in an appropriate and timely manner.
- Maintain an understanding of new developments in relevant technologies.

**Risk assess and prioritise patients appropriately, recognising the need for special interest input.**

- Manage patient referrals efficiently, according appropriate priority to referrals based on clinical need and in accordance with local and national guidelines.
- Refer to more experienced clinicians when appropriate.
- Manage acute presentations following local guidance.
- Know the conditions that warrant an urgent onward referral to other healthcare professionals, and be aware of the local policies and systems for making such referrals.
- Manage surgical waiting lists and other access to clinical services appropriately, intervening when clinical care for a patient is put at risk by inappropriate waiting list management.

**Independently perform low complexity oculoplastics procedures.**

- Achieve safe and appropriate local anaesthetic for ophthalmic procedures.
- Perform routine minor eyelid procedures, including, incision and curettage, biopsy and excision of eyelid lesions.
- Perform emergency oculoplastic procedures, including, lateral canthotomy and cantholysis, eyelid laceration repair, (including the lid margin), tarsorrhaphy and botulinum toxin administration for protection of the cornea/ocular.
- Perform primary ectropion and entropion procedures.
- Know how to handle and manage an eyelid biopsy specimen to minimise artefacts.
- Make appropriate and reliable arrangements for the result to be acted upon in a timely fashion.
- Develop new skills in a supervised simulated environment.