



**The ROYAL COLLEGE of
OPHTHALMOLOGISTS**

OST Curriculum 2024

Level 3 Learning Outcomes and descriptors

Patient Management Domain

DRAFT

Cataract Surgery (iii)

| Level 3 | |
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| Learning Outcome | Descriptors |
| <i>An ophthalmologist achieving this level will, in addition:</i> | |
| Independently assess and manage moderate complexity patients, demonstrating an understanding of cataract procedures and selecting the most appropriate treatment according to current accepted practice. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Understand and apply knowledge of medicine and surgery relevant to cataract and refractive 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 biometry (both contact and non-contact) and keratometry.▪▪ Implement a detailed management plan to include care from triage to discharge from care.▪ Acknowledge and follow relevant guidelines or protocols, including application of appropriate formulae for lens calculation.▪ Practise in line with the latest evidence.▪ Understand the indications, risks and limitations of surgery and laser treatment 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, including about refractive outcome.▪ 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 cataract and refractive conditions. |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 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. |
| <p>Risk assess and prioritise patients appropriately, recognising the need for special interest input.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 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 and situations that warrant an urgent onward referral to other healthcare professionals, and be aware of the local policies and systems for making such referrals. ▪ Make appropriate and reliable arrangements for results to be acted upon in a timely fashion. ▪ 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. |
| <p>Independently perform low risk phacoemulsification cataract procedures.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Achieve safe and appropriate local anaesthetic for ophthalmic procedures. ▪ Perform low risk phacoemulsification cataract procedures. ▪ Use knowledge of phacodynamics to employ a suitable surgical technique. ▪ Perform an indicative minimum number of 100 complete cataract procedures during training. ▪ Apply appropriate laser for the management of problems with the lens capsule after cataract surgery. ▪ Perform aqueous and vitreous sampling in the management of endophthalmitis, and understand the risks of the procedure. ▪ Constitute and administer intra-vitreous antibiotics. ▪ Know how to handle any samples taken from the eye to increase the diagnostic yield and liaise with laboratory staff so that the specimens are correctly identified, presented and transported. ▪ Develop new skills in a supervised simulated environment. |