



The **ROYAL COLLEGE** *of*
OPHTHALMOLOGISTS

OST Curriculum 2024

Level 3 Learning Outcomes and descriptors

Patient Management Domain

Neuro-ophthalmology (ix)

Level 3	
Learning Outcome	Descriptors
<i>An ophthalmologist achieving this level will, in addition:</i>	
Independently assess and manage moderate complexity patients, demonstrating an understanding of neuro-ophthalmology procedures selecting the most appropriate treatment according to current accepted practice.	▪ Understand and apply knowledge of medicine and surgery relevant to neuro-ophthalmology 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, including the indications and limitations of the tests and the interpretation of the results. ▪ Recognise all urgent neuro-ophthalmology conditions and carry out initial investigation and management. ▪ Know when to refer to neuro-ophthalmology/ neurology/ medical colleagues for further opinion/ management. ▪ Use with accuracy and efficiency instruments and tests available to assess the patient, including colour vision testing suitable for the cause of colour vision loss. ▪ Be familiar with imaging protocols e.g. for acute Horner's syndrome. ▪ 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 medical and surgical treatments 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 neuro-ophthalmology 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. ▪ Choose appropriate visual field perimeters, strategies and algorithms for neurological assessment.
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 neuro-ophthalmology procedures.	▪ Be familiar with the neuro-ophthalmic indications, including the principles and side effects of treatment and the doses used for different indications. ▪ Develop new skills in a supervised simulated environment.