



Wednesday 20 May 14.30 – 15.30 Island ophthalmology: delivering eye care in remote and isolated communities

Island populations face unique challenges in accessing emergency and specialist ophthalmology care due to geographic isolation, limited infrastructure, and small population bases. In this session, we will hear experiences from three very different perspectives. We will discuss ophthalmic service delivery models for varying population sizes, governance structures, and healthcare systems.

This seminar has broad relevance for ophthalmology services in larger mainland centres. Island systems highlight many of the same pressures seen elsewhere, including: workforce constraints, urgent referral triage, safe transfer decisions, imaging access, teleophthalmology, and good governance across sites. By examining how care is delivered in remote settings, we can identify practical lessons for building more resilient, flexible, and patient-centred eye care pathways across the UK and beyond.

By the end of the session, attendees will be able to:

- Compare different models for delivering ophthalmology in remote and island settings.
- Identify transferable lessons for triage, teleophthalmology, imaging access, and multi-site governance.
- Understand how remote services make decisions about transfer, escalation, and local management.
- Reflect on how island service design can enable resilience in larger mainland eye units.

Co-Chairs: Miss Shivona Chetty, Consultant Ophthalmologist, Ninewells Hospital, Dundee, Scotland & Dr Conor Malone, Senior Fellow, Oxford Eye Hospital, England

"Working on Scottish Islands and in East Africa: Common Ground"

Miss Rosie Brennan, Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeon, the Orkney Islands and the Hebrides, Scotland

"Island Healthcare in a Crown Dependency: Eye Care in Jersey"

Mr Anish Shah, Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeon, Jersey, Channel Islands

"Eye Care at the Edge of the South Atlantic: Ophthalmology in the Falklands"

Rebecca Turner, Consultant Nurse, Oxford Eye Hospital, England