

Welcome

WGOS newsletter is the go-to place to support you through Welsh Government's optometry contract reform programme. Each newsletter will give a bitesize summary of a particular topic with links to relevant resources and support. With tips and advice to help you prepare for the new optometry services... **we've got you.**

The WGOS reform programme will see the range of NHS-funded eye care services provided by optometrists, OMPs and dispensing opticians in Wales increased, with each member of the practice team collaborating to work at the top of their respective clinical licence.



Newsletter #2 will focus on: Optical Appliances

Optical appliances are made available via a voucher system which is something we are all familiar with. Fundamentally this will remain the same, but with the following changes:

- There will be new voucher bandings added for higher prescriptions.
- A patient must be given the option of a well-fitting optical appliance wholly covered by the new voucher value. This will be a big change for some, but business as usual for others. A patient in Wales should expect a well-fitting suitable pair of spectacles if they receive a voucher, not just money towards them.



Key Questions



Am I a practice manager or responsible for optical appliances?

- ↘ If your answer is **'yes'**: Then prepare your practice/ business systems and stock for changes.
- ↘ **If not:** Relax and wait for the next newsletter.

Summary

What?

Providing optical appliances will be different in WGOS, but for most practices only a little.

- ↘ Broadly, the voucher bandings are the same... but there will be a few more.
- ↘ A patient must have the option of a well-fitting optical appliance wholly covered by the new voucher value.

When?

- ↘ WGOS changes are expected to be adhered to from mid-October when the new regulations come into force.

How?

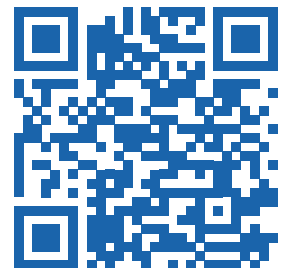
- ↘ Take this time to consider your products and processes. Consider what you'll supply to patients and how you'll manage this in your practice.

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<https://www.nhs.wales/sa/eye-care-wales/professionals/latest-news-for-professionals/wgos-newsletters/>