

**FOR ACTION & INFORMATION  
TO: ALL GOS CONTRACTORS AND  
OPTOMETRISTS WORKING IN PRACTICE  
JANUARY 2018**

Tel : 0300 555 115  
Web Site: [www.hscboard.hscni.net](http://www.hscboard.hscni.net)

Dear GOS Contractor

## **CCG: ORTHOPTIC SERVICE REFERRALS – GUIDANCE BANNERS & PROTOCOLS**

From Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2018 the following changes will be applied to CCG referrals to Orthoptic Services (where available on CCG within a specific HSCT). Currently Optometry Protocols for Orthoptic Referrals are only available in the Northern HSCTrust area. Please note that other HSC Trusts may have Orthoptics listed as a referral option on the CCG but that Optometrists currently, should not use these as referral options.

### **1. Separate Protocols for Adult and Paediatric Orthoptic Referrals**

Please note that separate Optometry referral protocols for adult and paediatric orthoptic services are listed in the drop down list.

### **2. New CCG Orthoptic Guidance Banners – Adult and Paediatric**

Following agreement with NIGPC representatives, HSCB eHealth advisers and the HSCT lead Orthoptists the guidance banners for Orthoptic services have been updated. Please note that the original advice to provide information in regard to children and social services involvement has been removed from the new and updated paediatric Orthoptic referral guidance banner.

PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOU DISSEMINATE THIS INFORMATION TO ALL OPTOMETRISTS WORKING IN YOUR PRACTICE AND USING CCG TO GENERATE REFERRALS TO THE ORTHOPTIC SERVICE – FULL TIME, PART TIME OR LOCUM OPTOMETRISTS

If you have any queries in relation to this please contact any one of the HSCB Clinical Optometric Advisers who will assist in answering your query:

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***General Medical Services & General Ophthalmic Services***

**Directorate of Integrated Care**

**Health and Social Care Board**