



**North Yorkshire and Humber
Commissioning Support Unit**

19 March 2014

Practice Manager
Henderson Optometrists Ltd
t/a Stokeld & Stephens Opticians
12 Stokesley Road
Marton in Cleveland
Middlesbrough
TS7 8DX

Patient Choice Office
North Yorkshire and Humber
Commissioning Support Unit
Triune Court
Unit 1
Monks Cross North
York
YO32 9GZ
Telephone: 0300 3030060
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Dear Colleague,

Re: Direct Cataract Referral Scheme

I would like to give you the opportunity to sign up to the Direct Cataract Referral Scheme currently operated by NHS Hambleton, Richmondshire and Whitby Clinical Commissioning Group (as well as four other local CCGs).

We are aware that a number of patients belonging to NHS Hambleton Richmondshire and Whitby CCG live and work in the vicinity of your practice and, at present, cataract referrals for these patients would be sent via their GP to be actioned. The Direct Cataract Referral scheme enables the Optometrist to assess whether the patient meets the CCG's criteria for referral using the standardised referral form. The form can then be submitted to the Patient Choice Office who will contact the patient to offer a range of providers and make an appointment for the patient, where possible, thus negating the need for involvement from the patient's GP.

The CCG will pay the practice £12 for each direct cataract referral submitted on the appropriate documentation and within the agreed parameters of the scheme. Further information regarding the process for claiming payment will be provided to practices following the sign up process.

If you would like to sign up to the Direct Cataract Scheme, I would be grateful if you would complete the enclosed form and return it to me at the above address and I will contact you to confirm when the sign up is complete.

Maddy Ruff
Managing Director

Should you have any queries or concerns in the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely



Louise Horsfield
Pathway Implementation and Choice Manager

Enclosures:

Direct Cataract Referral Scheme Guidance
Application form for Direct Cataract Referral Scheme
Direct Cataract Referral Patient Leaflet
Direct Cataract Referral Form

Maddy Ruff
Managing Director