**Wessex Ophthalmology** **Practitioner Programme (OPT)**

**Newsletter 1 (April 2021)**

Welcome to the first newsletter to support the implementation of the OPT programme within the Wessex region. This newsletter will be biannual and include information for OPT Leads, OPT learners and all staff working within ophthalmology on the latest regional activities, plans, progress, training and learning opportunities.

Please send any ideas or information to be included in the next newsletter to Chris Caws [christine.caws@porthosp.nhs.uk](mailto:christine.caws@porthosp.nhs.uk)

**The Ophthalmic Common Clinical Competency Framework - Curriculum**

The Ophthalmic Common Clinical Competency Framework (OCCCF) provides standards and guidance for the knowledge and skills required for non-medical eye healthcare professionals to deliver patient care. It is well known that there is a need for a systematic patient-centred approach to multi-disciplinary education and training in order to ensure standardised and recognised competences across all ophthalmic secondary care locations in the UK.

Accessed from the NHS Health Education England web site <https://www.hee.nhs.uk/our-work/advanced-clinical-practice/ophthalmology-common-clinical-competency-framework-curriculum>

Further information can be found on **the Health Education England and The Royal College of Ophthalmologists** web site – type ‘OCCCF’.

The Ophthalmic Common Clinical Competency Framework is now more commonly referred to as the Ophthalmology Practitioner Training Programme (OPT).

**Targets for the year 2021:**

* Regional teams to support each unit to set up OPT programme
* Each Unit to support minimum 2 learners to be enrolled onto the OPT programme or Portsmouth Uni course before 31st Dec 2021
* Each unit and unit lead to set up and maintain local database for each learner

**Current number of OPT Learners registered within the region**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Basingstoke Unit** | **5** |
| **Salisbury Unit** | **3** |
| **Dorchester Unit** | **2** |
| **Portsmouth Unit** | **2** |

Are you a Unit OPT Lead?

Or are you interested in this role?

Please contact: Rashi Arora or Chris Caws for more information

Do you have ophthalmology staff that are interested in the OPT programme, but who are unsure where to start?

Please contact Chris Caws [christine.caws@porthosp.nhs.uk](mailto:christine.caws@porthosp.nhs.uk)

For a chat, TEAMs call or visit to your unit

**DATE FOR THE DIARY**

First region TEAMs meeting for OPT Leads and Learners – to update, discuss and feedback progress

**Tuesday 8th June 2021 12:00 – 14:00**

Please email Chris Caws for Teams link

**Support for OPT learners:**

Quarterly meetings –

First TEAMs meeting was 26th January 2021

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**Education and Training Events**

The next Wessex regional study day will be on **Tuesday, 20th April 2021.**

Registration link for the event is as below:

<https://www.wportal.co.uk/event-details-registration/glaucoma-study-day>

There will be lots of interactive case discussions so please register at least 48 hours prior to the event to allow allocation of groups.

Please ensure the device you are joining the session with has a camera and microphone to allow participation in the discussions.

**New Basic Foundation Eye Course developed by Portsmmouth University**

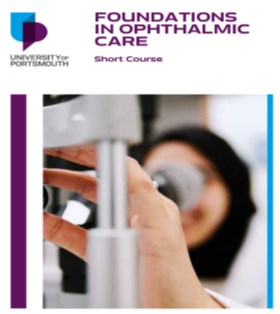
* Pilot commenced April 2021
* 3 month course of E learning, 3 x workshop study days and work based practice linked to some of the OPT level 1 domains.
* 10 placeshave been allocated for nursing staff across the region

**Are you interested in the September 2021 course?**

Please contact Chris Caws

[christine.caws@porthosp.nhs.uk](mailto:christine.caws@porthosp.nhs.uk)



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**Contact details:**

Dr Luisa Simo [luisa.simo@port.ac.uk](mailto:luisa.simo@port.ac.uk)

Yvette Revell-Smith

[yvette.revell-smith@port.ac.uk](mailto:yvette.revell-smith@port.ac.uk)

Yvette

**Plans for 2022 include:**

Glaucoma and MR course via Portsmouth University

Basic Foundation Eye course for Band 4 staff staff

**Regional contact details**

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| --- | --- |
| **Regional Education Advisor** | **Doreen Khan-Lim** [**Doreen.khanlim@uhs.nhs.uk**](mailto:Doreen.khanlim@uhs.nhs.uk) |
| **Regional OPT Lead** | **Rashi Arora** [**rashi.arora1@nhs.net**](mailto:rashi.arora1@nhs.net) |
| **Regional OPT Implementation Support**  **(HEE funded secondment 1 day a week)** | **Chris Caws** [**christine.caws@porthosp.nhs.uk**](mailto:christine.caws@porthosp.nhs.uk) |