**Referrals to Ophthalmology**

* All referrals to ophthalmology should be categorised into one of the following sub-specialities as detailed below
* The majority of referrals to ophthalmology are initiated by optometrists and, therefore, the sub-speciality will be chosen by the optometrist
* Categories / Sub-specialities
1. Paediatric Ophthalmology- any eye problems below the age of 16 years
2. Oculoplastics (Eyelid/ lacrimal/ Orbit)- any eyelid lesions; eyelid pathology including ptosis, ectropion and entropion; tear duct problems; proptosis; thyroid eye disease; eye socket pathology; conjunctival pigmentation
3. Motility/ Squint- any eye movement problems, adult squint, nystagmus
4. Orthoptic- please see separate referral pathway for orthoptics (there will be significant overlap between this and Motility/ Squint- both will be triaged by the same group of clinicians)
5. Neuro-ophthalmology- any pathology affecting the visual pathways including optic chiasm, optic nerve and occipital cortex
6. Cataract- any visually significant cataract; vision and slit-lamp examination to be performed by optometrist prior to referral
7. Cornea and Ocular Surface- any corneal problems, severe dry eye; vision and slit-lamp examination to be performed by optometrist prior to referral
8. Glaucoma- high intraocular pressure as assessed by optometrist; normal intraocular pressure but suspicious optic disc or visual fields as assessed by optometrist; referrals for narrow drainage angles (by van Herrick grading)
9. Macula- any macular problems including macular degeneration; vision and macular examination to be performed by optometrist prior to referral
10. Medical Retina - any retinal problems that are unlikely to require surgery eg retinitis pigmentosa, retinal vascular problems etc; vision and retinal examination to be performed by optometrist prior to referral
11. Surgical Retina- any retinal problems that will need surgery eg macular hole, epiretinal membrane etc (retinal detachments are referred as emergencies to the acute referral clinic); vision and retinal examination to be performed by optometrist prior to referral
12. Retina Diabetic- retinal problems related to diabetes; assessed by optometrist or diabetic retinopathy service
13. Uveitis- inflammatory eye disease; vision and slit-lamp examination performed by optometrist prior to referral
14. Low Vision Aids- patients only requiring low vision aids
15. Artificial Eye- patients who are having problems with their artificial eye
16. Contact Lens- patients needing a specialist contact lens service such as for keratoconus; assessed by optometrist prior to referral
17. General Ophthalmology- any referrals that you may be unsure of or unable to decide on the sub-speciality