

Update

Issue 33 • Autumn 2006

Clinical Skills

In view of trends within the optometric profession expanding the scope of practice into shared care and co-management, and the development of optometrists with specialist interests, DOCET has identified advanced investigative techniques as a priority training area for optometrists. In order to meet this identified priority DOCET has agreed on a two-pronged approach.

So that as many practitioners as possible are given the chance to improve and extend their practical skills, DOCET is producing a “virtual” workshop in DVD format covering slitlamp indirect ophthalmoscopy, contact applanation tonometry and gonioscopy. The DVD will be distributed to all UK optometrists at the beginning of August. To support the DVD a series of UK-wide, practical workshops will commence in September.

DOCET has commissioned Replay Learning to run these workshops throughout the UK. The workshops will give practitioners the opportunity to practise these skills in small groups under the supervision of expert tutors, who have experience of using the techniques in a day-to-day clinical setting.

11 events are planned in the following dates and locations:

Date	Venue	Places
Monday 4 September	Holiday Inn, Gatwick	60
Tuesday 5 September	City University, London	120
Wednesday 6 September	University of Exeter	60
Thursday 7 September	University of Cardiff	60
Monday 11 September	University of Bradford	60
Tuesday 12 September	Glasgow Caledonian University	60
Wednesday 13 September	University of Ulster (Coleraine)	60
Monday 18 September	Aston University	120
Tuesday 19 September	Burleigh Court, Loughborough	60
Wednesday 20 September	Anglia Ruskin University, Cambridge	60
Thursday 21 September	University of Manchester	120

Continued overleaf

WITHIN OQ58

Themed edition on Eyecare Pathways

Eyecare pathways

Leaders of the NHS Eyecare Services programme Andrew Kent (Director) and Anita Lightstone (optometrist seconded from RNIB) talk to Philip Morgan about the programme's aims and the current state of play.

Glaucoma pathway pilot

Optometrist Sheila Urquhart explains the workings of the Peterborough pilot project to Gordon Carson.

Low vision pathway pilot

Paul Thompson tells Hugh Breakspear how his local project in Merton, Sutton and Wandsworth making a difference in a difficult-to-reach population.

Quarterly review

Geoff Roberson's regular journal update.

Clinical Skills continued

The delegate fee of £30 (inc. VAT) includes all refreshments and full colour support notes on all the workshop procedures. CET approval for 6 points per event has been sought. Demand for these practical workshops is expected to be high and due to the nature of small group training, numbers are limited so book now to make sure you get your place.

Rob Hogan, Chairman of DOCET Executive Committee commented "Modern optometric practise requires today's optometrist to be proficient in a far wider range of investigative techniques than were taught at university. If we are to effectively undertake extended roles, in support of the move from secondary to primary eyecare, then we all need to make every effort to gain the skills required to become confident in our abilities.

For these reasons, DOCET has decided to prioritise Clinical Skills Workshops, supported by a Distance Learning DVD. The DVD and workshops are designed to complement each other and to recognise differing learning styles – the DVD offering the theory and the workshops an opportunity to have a go."

Please see the enclosed booking form for registration information.

News Items

DOCET Funding – Scotland

In the last Update Newsletter we reported that NES Scotland were awaiting a proposal from Optometry Scotland regarding the future training needs for Scottish optometrists.

We are pleased to announce that Optometry Scotland have included funding for DOCET in their submission to NHS Education Scotland, to whom responsibility has been passed from SEHD for the funding of training of optometrists in Scotland.

CET Undertaken in 2004

In 2005 the College of Optometrists and the GOC arranged that the College would continue to retrospectively approve applications for accreditation of CET undertaken in 2004 until the end of this year.

However, as individual's CET records for the current CET cycle need to be finalised by 31 December 2006 it has been agreed that a deadline of 30 September will be implemented, after which the College will no longer accept Post-Approval Application Forms.

Please note that the College's post-approval application process is to accredit CET undertaken in 2004 that has not already been accredited by the College or ABDO. If you attended an event in 2004 and are not sure whether it has been CET-accredited or not, please check with the event organiser.

If the event has not yet been CET-accredited, please apply to the College for a Post-Approval Application Form.

The deadline for receiving these forms is 30 September 2006.

The second point to note is that CET undertaken in 2004 must be self-certified – the College cannot add any points to your cetoptics record. If you know the CET reference code and number of points allocated you must self-certify these through the GOC website – **www.optical.org**

In addition, it is worth keeping in mind that a maximum of 24 points only can be carried over from the voluntary period (1 January 2004 to 30 June 2005); any additional points will not be registered on your cetoptics record.

For further information please email **cet@college-optometrists.org**

Tell Us What You Want

At DOCET we are always keen to hear your views on the Optometric Quarterly series and accompanying newsletter. It appears that although we do mention in every newsletter that OQ is available not only on cassette-tape but also on CD-ROM and on the DOCET website as downloadable MP3 files, many of you are still not aware of this – only 13% of optometrists have elected to receive a CD-ROM rather than a cassette tape. The Update newsletter is also available on the website to download as a PDF.

We would like you to tell us in what format you would wish to receive the quarterly mailing. Please take a

minute to fill out the enclosed card and post back to DOCET free of charge. Alternatively visit the DOCET website (www.docet.info) to answer the online poll or send an email to docet@college-optometrists.org to let us know what you think. Please remember to include your full name, GOC number and postal address so that we can amend our database if necessary. If you wish to receive an email alert don't forget to let us know your email address.

The default has been reset so that all new optometrists that join the register will automatically receive the audio files on CD-ROM.

MCQs for OQ58

- Which of the following statements about the NHS Eyecare Services Programme is NOT true?
 - The eyecare services pilot sites have not included cataract care
 - Associate sites have been added because low vision services were least represented
 - The pilot schemes are primarily to determine how costs can be reduced
 - Feedback shows that patients are able to access services more easily
- In relation to the Peterborough glaucoma scheme which of the following statements is true?
 - Patients are diagnosed and have had 2 visual field assessments by the time they are seen in the Hospital Eye Department
 - Patients can be diagnosed, have had 2 visual field assessments and have been treated for 6 months by the time they are seen in the Hospital Eye Department
 - Visual field assessments have to be undertaken by the specialist optometrist
 - Sheila Urquhart sees 1 – 2 glaucoma patient per week
- In the Merton, Sutton and Wandsworth low vision scheme how many community sites are there?
 - 1
 - 3
 - 13
 - 33
- Which of the following seems to offer the most promising option for the treatment of CRVO with the fewest side effects?
 - Haemodilution therapy
 - Intravitreal steroid injection
 - Intravitreal thrombolysis
 - Vitrectomy with intravenous thrombolysis
- Which of the following is NOT a category of adult achievement assessed as part of the amblyopia study?
 - Criminal record
 - Educational outcomes
 - Paid employment
 - Participation in social activities
- Which of the following statements about “dry eye” in LASIK patients is NOT true?
 - The dry eye problem was at its peak after 1 post-operative week
 - Dry eye was assessed in terms of the amount of fluorescein staining found
 - The study subjects had abnormal tear production
 - The degree of dry eye correlated with the degree of pre-operative myopia

Submit your answers online via www.docet.info

Course code: C-4018

Closing date: 29 October 2006

Answers to MCQs for OQ57

Due to the delay in distributing OQ57 last quarter the MCQs for this issue are still available on the DOCET website. The answers will therefore be published in the next quarterly Update Newsletter.

References

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www.eyecare.nhs.uk

Glaucoma pathway

www.optometricglaucomasociety.org

Quarterly review

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**The correlation between migraine headache and
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**Does amblyopia affect educational, health, and social
outcomes? Findings from 1958 British birth cohort**

BMJ 2006; 332(7545): 820-825.

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**People considering laser eye surgery should be warned of
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myopic LASIK**

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**A study of the relation between body mass index and the
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